

COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE!

THE SHOPPER'S GUIDE TO NEW PRODUCTS



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Experience

Uncompromised Web Access

NETGEAR N900 Wireless
Dual Band Gigabit Router



Protect Your Entire Digital Life

Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security 2012

Wirelessly Send
Music Across Your Home
Rocketboost Technology



Build Your Perfect Home Theater

MARCH 2012



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First Glimpse

Volume 9 Issue 3

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Discover New Possibilities
With Today's Technology

Connect Your Life

To make life a little less complicated, there are a variety of connected devices, technologies, and services you can use to your advantage. And with the right solution, you can tackle tasks regardless of where you are—at home, at work, on the road, or on the go. This is where you can discover the latest components to build a connected life and simplify the ways you retrieve information, enjoy entertainment, manage your life, communicate with others, and more.

The possibilities are limitless. No matter what you dream of doing, the world of consumer electronics can help you accomplish your goals.



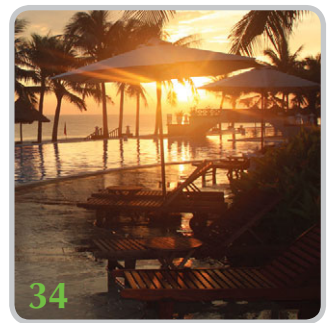
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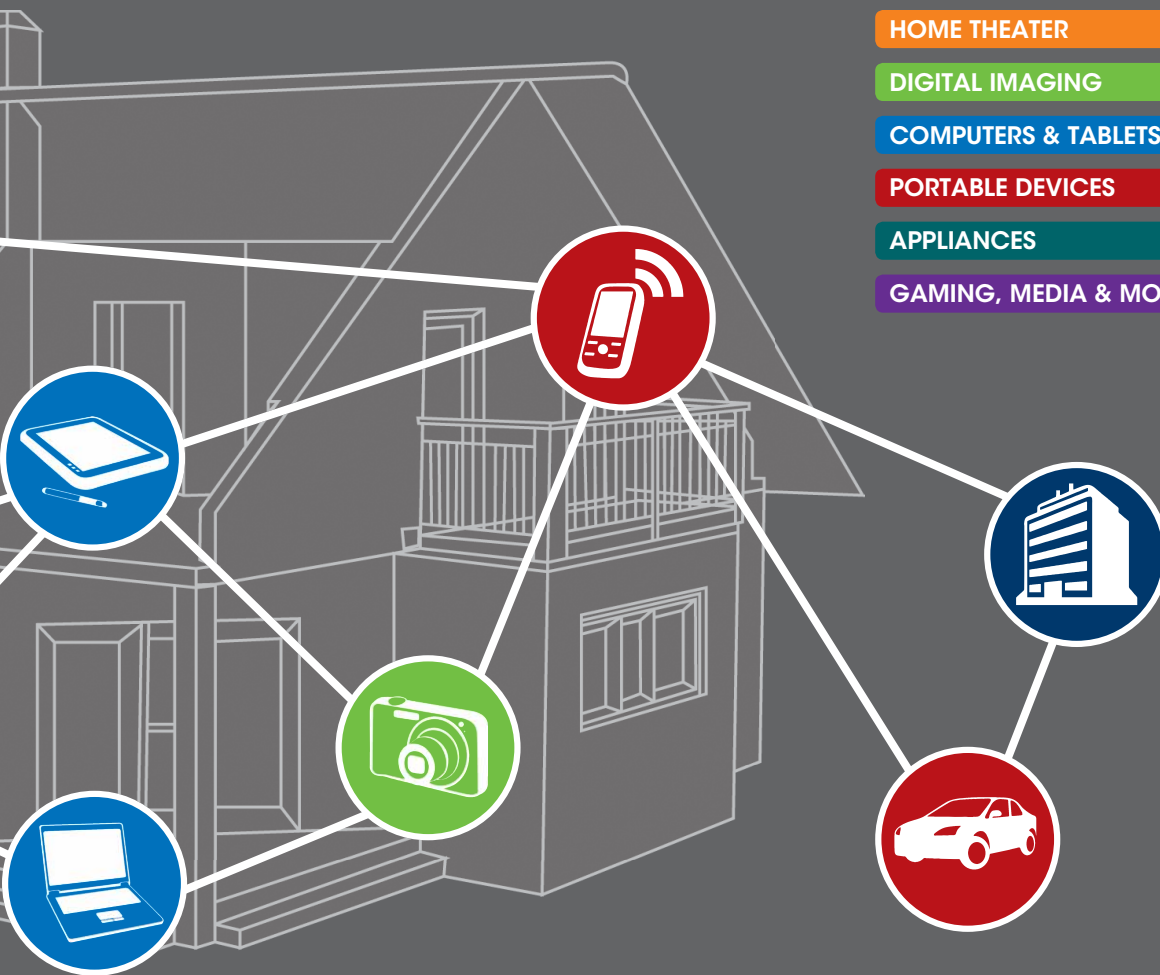
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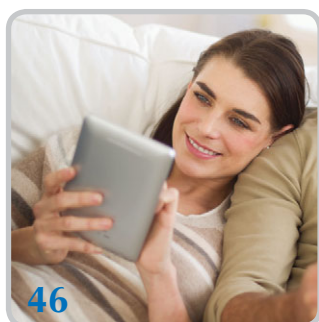
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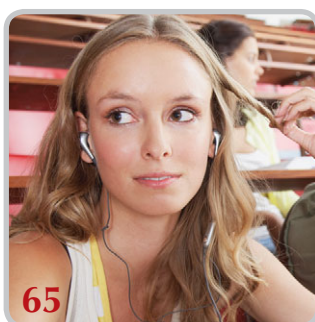
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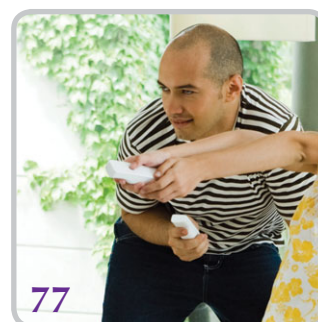
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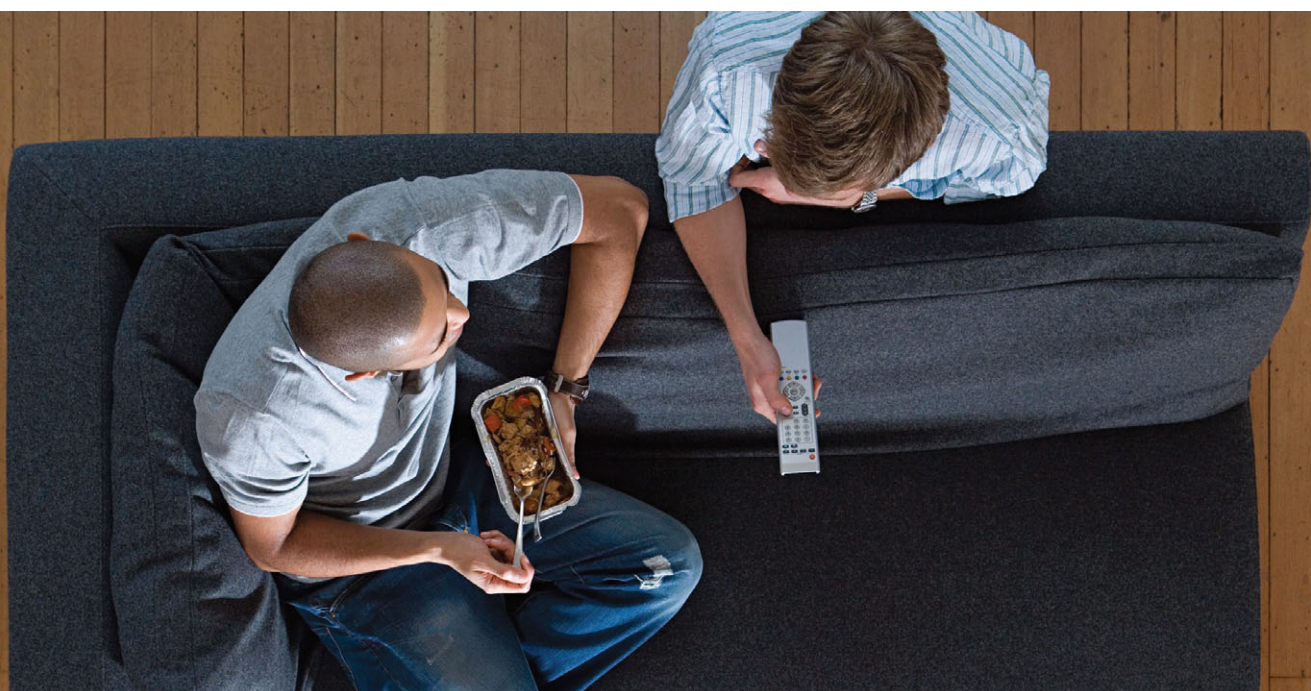
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LED Is On The Rise

The average price of an LED TV has dropped a whopping \$1,245 since 2009 to \$817. Now that it's more affordable for the masses, it shouldn't come as any surprise that the HDTV display technology is set to account for more than 2/3 of LCD TV shipments this year. That's a 46% increase from 2010.

Source: The NPD Group & NPD DisplaySearch

The Year Of The Ultrabook

It's predicted that small- to medium-sized businesses in the United States will purchase at least 3.6 million Ultrabooks before the year's over. Lightweight, battery-efficient, and secure, the new computer type was familiar to only 23% of businesses recently surveyed. However, of those who knew what an Ultrabook was, 65% said they intend to use them. To learn more about Intel 2nd Gen Core processor-powered Ultrabooks, turn to page 48.

TIDBITS



An NPD In-Stat survey found a correlation between the screen sizes of smart mobile devices and what they were used for. Tablets (9 to 11 inches) were mostly used for the Web, email, downloads, and apps. Less-than-5-inch media players were used for music and video entertainment.



Of those who read digital versions of magazines on their tablets, 67% said they'd rather read an electronic version over the print version, according to GfK MRI's iPanel. If you agree with this group, make sure to download the free digital edition of *First Glimpse* from the Apple Store.

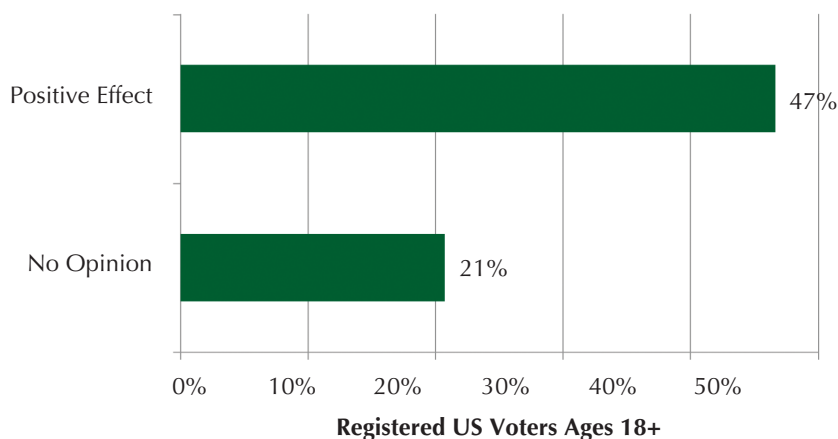
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Survey: Electronic Devices Generally Help Education

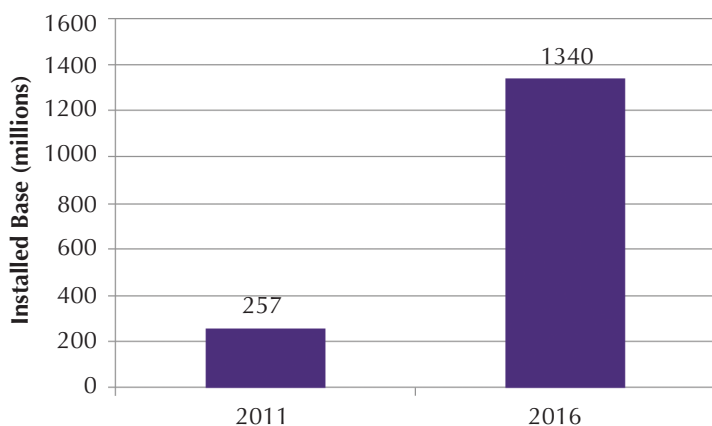
Nearly half of US voters believe that the growing number of electronic gadgets is having a beneficial effect on the education of US youth. People ages 30 to 44 were most certain of a positive effect from the proliferation of devices (54%), while the 18 to 29 age group was the least likely to say that it was having a negative impact (26%).

Source: Poll Position

Electronics' Effect On Kids' Education



Internet-Connected Devices



Online Devices To Soar

The number of "smart" electronics devices, such as those able to tap into Internet video, is set to grow with a compound annual rate of nearly 53% over the next four years, according to recent findings. Led by video game consoles, which may approach 37 million units in use by 2016, the sector is expected to reach more than 1.3 billion devices on the strength of Internet-connectable HDTVs, Blu-ray Disc players and recorders, satellite boxes, and more.

Source: NPD In-Stat

TIDBITS



The exploding popularity in online video has spurred development of Wi-Fi devices in the living room, says NPD In-Stat. Wi-Fi-enabled video devices such as HDTVs, game consoles, and Blu-ray Disc players will ship nearly 600 million units in 2015, the research firm says.



Tablets accounted for almost 26% of mobile PCs sold last year with nearly 73 million units, according to NPD DisplaySearch. However, laptops still ruled two-thirds of the market with almost 188 million units sold in 2011. (Ultrabooks were too new to count.)



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How Do I Enjoy More Media Options On My Schedule?

Why Your Home Theater Should Be Connected

An Ideal Home Theater

Budget For Your Needs

Home theaters are built a number of different ways—but they tend to share the same basics. With those pillars in mind, here's what you need to build an ideal home theater and why each component be a part of your overall plan.

HOME THEATER

A Typical Home Theater Budget



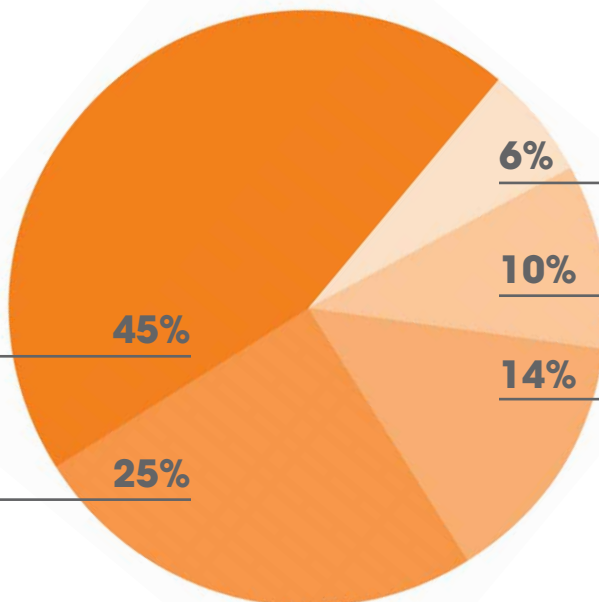
HDTV or Projector

See p. 10 to 14



Speakers

See p. 19 to 24



6%

Media Player

See p. 16 to 18, 25, and 27



10%

A/V Receiver

See p. 16 to 18



14%

Other Essentials

Cables

See p. 30 TV Wall Mount

See p. 30 Furniture

See p. 47 Wireless N Router

Surge Protector/
Power Conditioner

Universal Remote



1 HDTV Or Projector

When you think “home theater”, an HDTV is likely to be the first thing that comes to mind. While that’s the typical centerpiece, a projector is a great alternative.

2 Speakers

Strong audio performance will add much to your HT experience. For instance, surround-sound speakers will make you feel as though you’re in the middle of the action and wireless options, such as the Rocketfish Rocketboost speakers on page 24, give you better flexibility in your setup.

3 A/V Receiver

This device takes audio from components such as your TV, amplifies it, and sends it to your speakers. It also lets video pass through to your TV so that audio and video is properly synced.

4 Media Player

To expand your content choices, you need a media player. There are many to choose from, such as Blu-ray Disc players to play BDs and DVDs, DVRs to record programs, or streaming devices to connect to on-demand Web content.

5 Other Essentials

Don’t forget the following for your home theater, too:

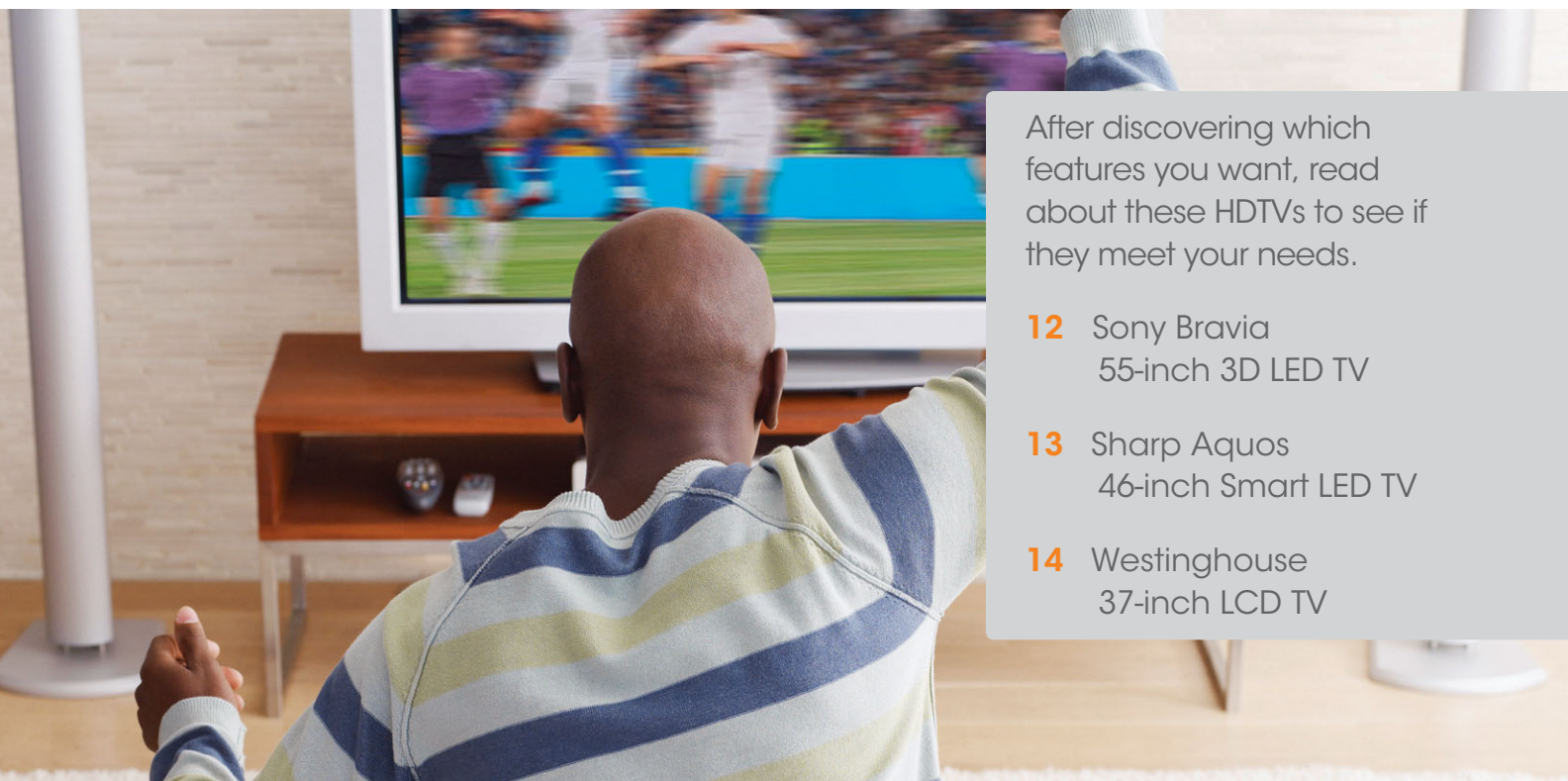
- **Cables.** If possible, opt for HDMI to connect your devices. It’s the only option that carries high-resolution video and uncompressed multi-channel audio without signal degradation.
- **TV wall mount.** To reclaim floor space and maintain a sleek modern look, pair your HDTV with a wall mount.
- **Furniture.** Cinematic seating provides high-class comfort while storage solutions such as stands, shelves, and towers keeps your media and components organized with style.
- **Wireless N router.** In order to enjoy Web content provided by smart home theater devices you need a Wireless N router.
- **Surge protector/power conditioner.** Protect your devices against power surges and prevent “dirty power” from lowering your A/V quality.
- **Universal remote.** Use one remote to control all of your devices, program special functions, and view options on an LCD.

The Broad Range Of HDTV Features

Get The Right HDTV

The phrase “you get what you pay for” rings true when you’re shopping for an HDTV. There are many features and capabilities to keep in mind, and to adequately meet your needs, some are worth the extra investment. Here’s a look at what your dollars will typically get you.

HOME THEATER



After discovering which features you want, read about these HDTVs to see if they meet your needs.

- 12** Sony Bravia
55-inch 3D LED TV
- 13** Sharp Aquos
46-inch Smart LED TV
- 14** Westinghouse
37-inch LCD TV

\$\$\$

- A screen that’s greater than 50 inches measured diagonally
- 3D capability for eye-popping entertainment as well as Web connectivity
- Memory card slots or USB ports to upload files from other devices
- Technologies to ensure optimal video such as smooth motion to make fast-action scenes move more fluidly and Deep Color to produce more vivid and accurate hues

\$\$

- Typically have enough inputs to connect a few components, such as a disc player, game console, and set-top box (higher-end models likely have even more)
- Some can connect to the Web using Wi-Fi, Ethernet, or both
- Web capabilities may rely on built-in apps or app downloads and full Web browsing
- Easy-to-navigate menus and settings

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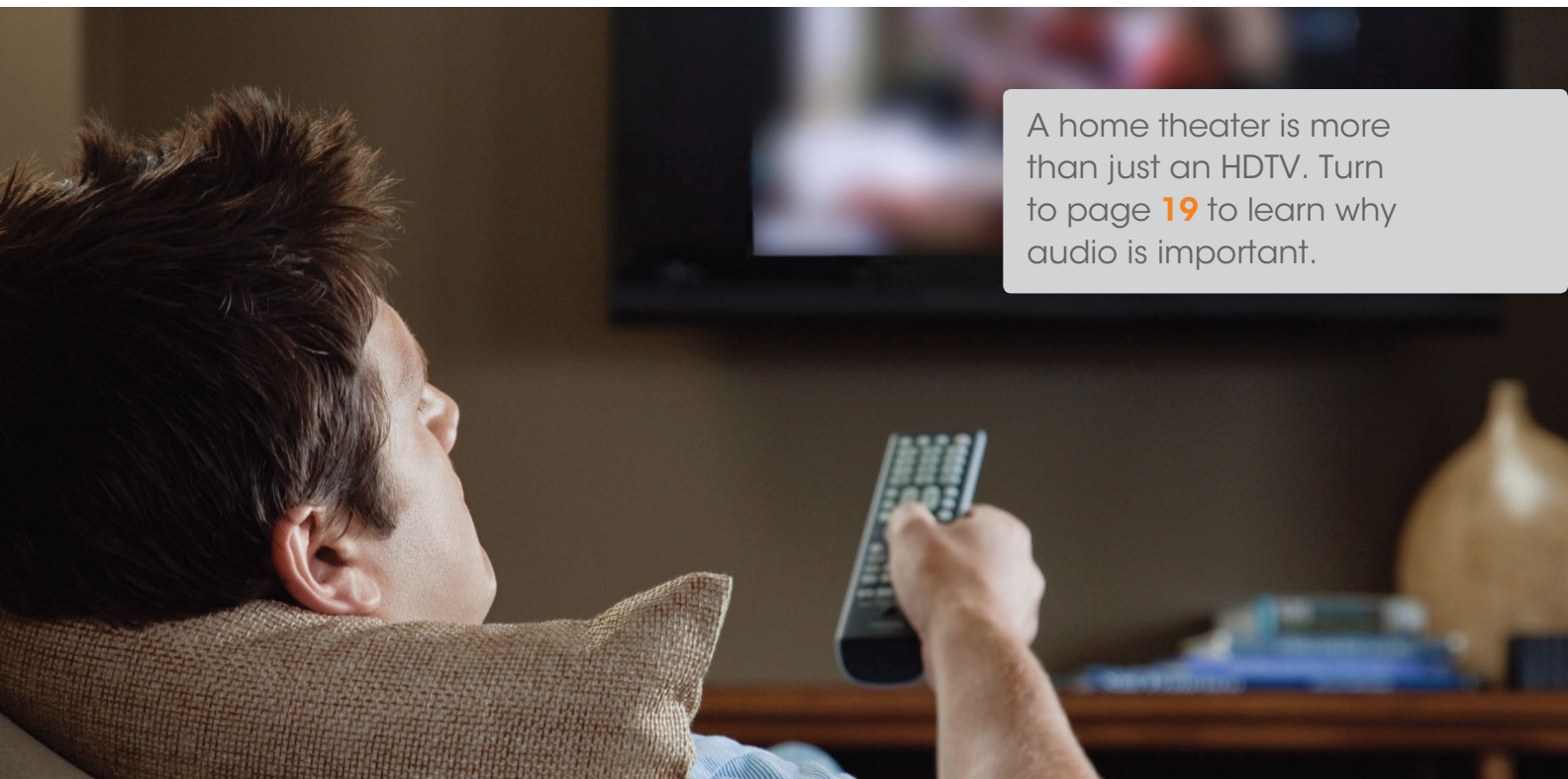
- Screen sizes are generally 40 inches or less with a 720p resolution
- Don’t offer nearly as many inputs or outputs to connect to other devices as more expensive models
- Included video technologies are good, but they don’t match the advanced performance of high-end TVs
- A basic HDTV might be your best option if you have a small budget to build an entire home theater setup

Screen Technology Differences

HDTVs

To pinpoint the best HDTV screen technology for your needs, you should consider the type of content you want to watch and the location in which you'll put your TV. Here's a look at what sets screen types apart, their benefits and drawbacks, and situations where they're ideal.

HOME THEATER



A home theater is more than just an HDTV. Turn to page **19** to learn why audio is important.

LCD TVs

These sets use CCFLs (cold cathode fluorescent lamps) or LEDs (light-emitting diodes) to project on-screen images. See the next column for more details on LED TVs.

- Ideal for wall mounting because they are thin and lightweight
- Consume a little less power than plasma TVs
- Best for bright, sunny rooms

LED TVs

LED TVs are actually a type of LCD TV and they use either full-array or edge-lit backlight configurations of LEDs.

- Use a lot less electricity than other TVs and don't contain harmful mercury
- Tend to have a longer lifespan
- Thinner design with high contrast ratios and fast response times
- Best for eco-conscious viewers

Plasma TVs

To create images that are bright, vibrant, and clear, plasma TVs electrically charge small cells that contain ionized gas.

- Enjoy deep blacks and bright whites with a high contrast ratio as well as wide viewing angles
- A more cost-efficient technology for TV screens that are 42 inches or larger
- Best for large and dark home theaters

SONY

Sony Bravia 3D 1080p LED HDTV

Another Dimension

The ultra-slim Sony Bravia 3D HDTV (www.sony.com) delivers visual elegance in many ways. With the number of high-end technologies packed in this 55-inch LED display, consider how this smart HDTV can bring class to your entertainment room.

HOME THEATER

Sony Bravia 54.6-inch XBR-55 HX929 Series HDTV | SKU: 2392277

Experience Enhanced Entertainment

A brilliant LED screen should astound you with fine detail, sharp contrast, and vibrant color—the Sony HX929 series TVs achieve this with a Sony OptiContrast panel that's outfitted with Corning Gorilla Glass. Lifelike images are projected on-screen due to the advanced capabilities of the Sony X-Reality Pro picture engine. Furthermore, Motionflow XR 960 technology ensures you only see natural motion with reduced judder and blur.

Discover Content That's Beyond 2D

To experience the thrill of watching movie characters virtually leap off the screen, the Sony Bravia XBR-55's advanced active 3D technology and 54.6-inch screen will immerse you in a whole new dimension of entertainment. Once you slide on the comfortable 3D active glasses, you can watch eye-popping movies, sports events, and other content with Full 1080p clarity in the comfort of home.

Enjoy More Than Just Cable TV

The Wi-Fi-enabled Sony XBR-55 HX929 offers instant access to your favorite Internet content. Using the Sony Entertainment Network, you can stream thousands of movies, TV shows, videos, games, and music from the Web to the HDTV. For instance, this lets you listen to Pandora radio stations, watch episodes of your favorite comedy with Hulu Plus, or even post and check status updates on social networks such as Twitter and Facebook.

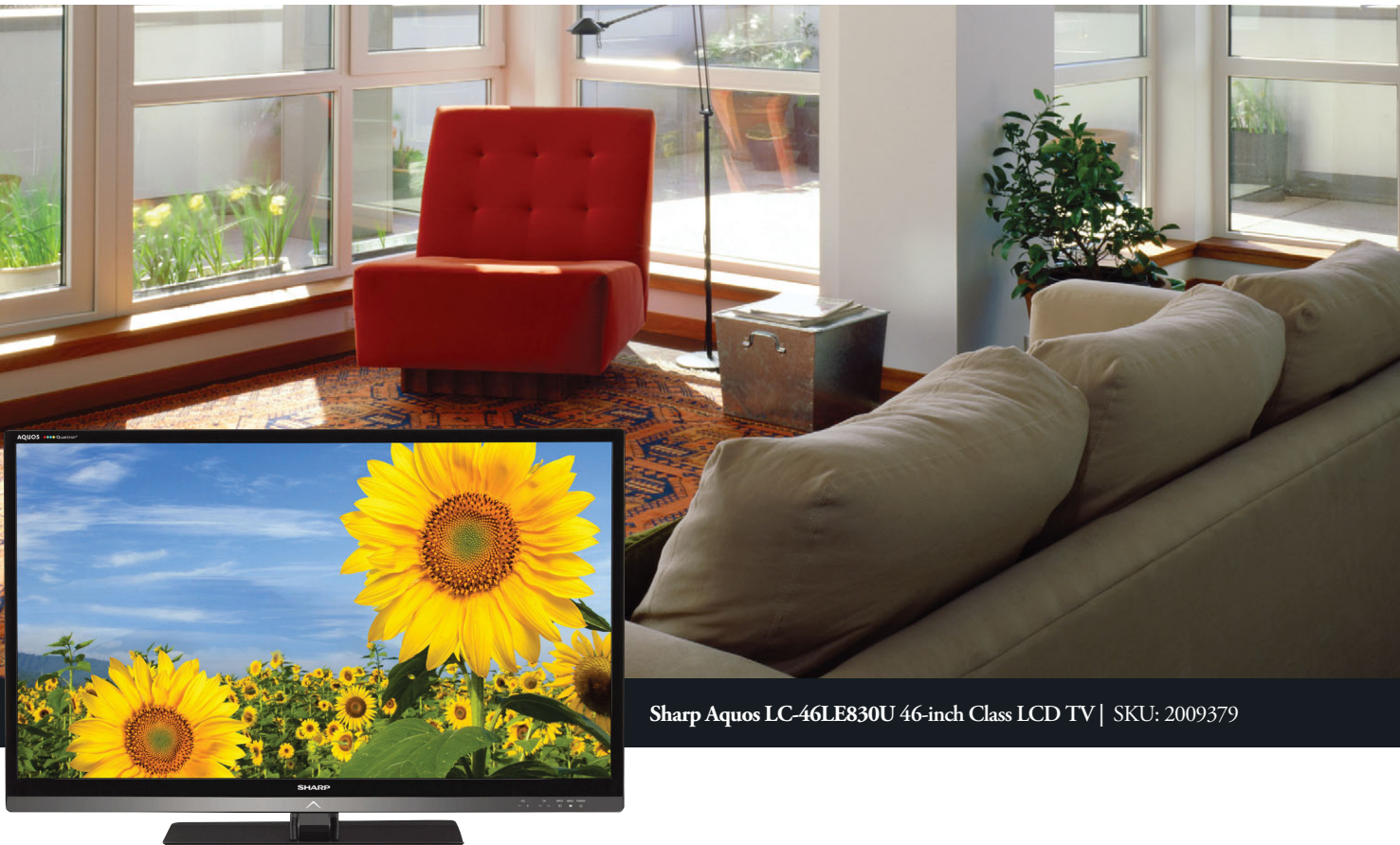
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Sharp Aquos 1080p Smart LCD-LED TV

Intelligent Design

To create images that appear more detailed and true-to-life, the Sharp Aquos LC-46LE830U (www.sharpusa.com) adds a fourth color—yellow—to its pixels. And with a backlit LED panel, motion processing, and connected Web services, this TV offers many more benefits.

HOME THEATER



Sharp Aquos LC-46LE830U 46-inch Class LCD TV | SKU: 2009379

See A Wider Color Range

Combining an UltraBrilliant LED system with a Full HD 1080p X-Gen Panel, the Sharp Aquos LC-46LE830U is capable of producing high brightness and color purity in addition to deep, dark blacks and brighter whites. And thanks to Sharp's Quad Pixel technology—which adds yellow to the traditional red, green, and blue subpixels most LCD TVs use—you'll be able to enjoy many colors that have never before been viewable on an HDTV.

Expand Your Content

With built-in Wi-Fi and smart TV services, the LC-46LE830U brings Vudu apps to your home theater. Apps include streaming video, music on demand, photo browsing, social networking, and more. The HDTV also connects you to Web service providers such as Netflix and CinemaNow so you can browse a variety of movies and TV shows and play them on demand. Additionally, you can connect a USB device to the LC-46LE830U to enjoy your videos, images, and MP3 files.

Remain Fully Immersed

Further enhancing the Full 1080p HD video capabilities of the LC-46LE830U, the Quad Pixel Plus feature produces smoother lines by allowing the TV's 8 million subpixels be individually controlled. And to further ensure that fast action scenes move fluidly, 120Hz Fine Motion Enhanced virtually eliminates blur and motion artifacts. With these advanced video technologies, you can fully enjoy your favorite media without distraction.

Westinghouse 37-inch Class LCD TV



A Vivid Experience

With the benefit of a convenient, versatile size, the 37-inch Westinghouse LCD TV (www.westinghousedigital.com) offers a bright, crisp 1080p HD picture that's ideal for your movie or gaming entertainment. Read on to learn more about this model.

HOME THEATER



Westinghouse VR-3730 37-inch Class 1080p LCD TV | SKU: 2343102



See & Hear It All

Whether you want to watch movies and TV shows on Blu-ray Disc, play games with a motion-based game console, or catch your favorite drama in HD on cable, the Westinghouse VR-3730 LCD TV makes your content look true-to-life with True HD 1080p video. Plus with the TV's HDMI Lip Sync feature, your audio won't lag behind what you see on-screen. This makes for an improved entertainment experience because you can see and hear your media the way it's supposed to play.

Soak In More Scenery

When you're watching content on the VR-3730, colors look accurate with whites that are bright and blacks that are dark rather than gray hues. The display's 4,000:1 contrast ratio also brings out image details that weren't visible before, such as characters lurking in the shadows of your favorite action flicks. Other video features include 3D noise (interference) reduction, de-interlacing, and preset color temperatures to ensure visuals are natural, detailed, and as flawless as possible.

Save Space & Energy

The VR-3730's size makes it an ideal choice for rooms with limited spaces. It's only 4-inches thick, so you don't need to dedicate much room to mount it on an apartment wall or home office. What's more, the VR-3730 is an environmentally friendly device you can add to your home: It's Energy Star certified, so it won't sap as much energy as comparable HDTVs. In fact, the estimated annual energy cost for is less than \$15 (depending on utility rates and general use).

Essential Things To Know

Home Theater Audio

If you've deemed your HDTV's integrated speakers "good enough," you might not know what you're missing. Once you experience the sound quality of a home theater audio system—especially with a Blu-ray Disc movie—you'll understand what we mean.

HOME THEATER



Will my HDTV's speakers provide high-quality sound?

Probably not. A typical HDTV's built-in speakers can't match the fidelity and immersive qualities that surround-sound speaker systems offer.

How is a surround-sound system better than my HDTV's speakers?

As its name implies, a surround-sound system literally surrounds you with speakers, so you feel like you're part of the action instead of listening to something happening over by your TV. You'll get deeper bass response from a surround-sound system, plus clearer, louder movie dialogue.



What does a surround-sound system include?

Home theater sound systems generally include an A/V receiver, which amplifies audio and sends it to the speakers (see page 16). Typically, they also come with a subwoofer for bass sounds, a center channel speaker to emphasize dialogue, and a number of satellite (surround) speakers you can mount around the room.

What do speaker system numbers such as 5.1 and 7.1 mean?

These numbers describe the number of speakers (channels) the system supports. The ".1" part indicates one subwoofer, while the "5" or "7" represents the even number of satellite speakers plus the single center channel unit.



How are surround-sound systems sold?

You can buy an A/V receiver and speakers separately, or you can purchase them in a kit called an HTiB (home theater in a box).

Are there audio options that take up less space?

Yes. Consider a soundbar, which simulates surround sound using a number of speakers in a horizontal unit. It will fit above or below your HDTV, and you can mount it on a wall. Many soundbars also come with subwoofers.

The Heart Of Your Home Theater

A/V Receivers

Like a rug that really ties a room together, an A/V receiver turns your home theater components into a cohesive whole. Here's a primer on the features you can buy at various price levels.

HOME THEATER



Once you've narrowed down your choices, make sure to read about the following A/V receivers in this issue.

17 Harman Kardon
AVR 2650

18 Samsung HW-D600

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The best A/V receivers bring you the state of the art in home theater technology. From the World Wide Web to satellites up in space, they deliver unlimited entertainment.

- Internet video and audio
- Satellite radio support
- Airplay wireless streaming
- 9.2/7.2-channel (second subwoofer)

\$\$

At the medium price level, you can get a few more amenities than you'll find in the entry-level tier. A receiver in a typical HTiB (home theater in a box) speaker set may come with some or all of the following features.

- 3D video passthrough support
- USB or dock support for MP3 players
- Bluetooth wireless connectivity for smartphones and select tablets

\$

These receivers may be modestly priced, but they can give you an immersive audio experience in your home theater—and elsewhere.

- Rocketboost wireless streaming to compatible speakers and devices (see page 24)
- 5.1-channel and even 7.1-channel surround sound
- Support for speakers in other rooms

Harman Kardon AVR 2650

Future Sound

When it's time to select the heart of your home theater setup, give some serious consideration to the Harman Kardon AVR 2650 (www.harmonkardon.com). Its forward-looking technologies address your home audio needs, both today and tomorrow.

HOME THEATER



Harman Kardon AVR 2650 A/V Receiver | SKU: 3645052

Advanced Audio

The AVR 2650 receiver features:

- 665W power; 7.1-channel sound
- Dolby Volume to prevent commercials from sounding too loud
- Dolby Pro Logic IIz front height speaker support for 3D sound
- Full BD audio format support including DTS-HD Master Audio
- An ultrawide-bandwidth amplifier with high-current capability (HCC)
- Logic 7 stereo-to-surround mixing

Looking Ahead

With the Harman Kardon AVR 2650, you can plan for the future. Its five HDMI 1.4a ports allow the receiver to support 3D video passthrough, Deep Color Blu-ray Discs, and Audio Return Channel to reduce the number of cables your smart TV requires. An EzSet/EQ microphone is also included for an easy, automated setup. You can also program the AVR 2650's learning remote to control your other HT devices.

Reaching Out

The AVR 2650 lets you move beyond the usual home theater audio/video sources. It also supports:

- An optional iPod/iPhone dock; playback is controllable with the remote and a high-def, TV screen menu
- Multi-room audio with Zone II speakers (sold separately)
- A satellite radio tuner (sold separately)
- Network audio streaming from your computer and Internet radio

Samsung HW-D600 A/V Receiver

SAMSUNG

Experience 3D Sound

You don't have to spend an arm and a leg to get a premium 5.1-channel experience. The Samsung HW-D600 (www.samsung.com) brings you great features such as 3D video passthrough, complete HD audio support, and an iPod/iPhone dock, all at a reasonable price.

HOME THEATER



Samsung HW-D600 A/V Receiver | SKU: 2901614

Immerse Yourself

The best complement to a 3D TV is a sound system that surrounds you with audio. As the Samsung HW-D600 allows 3D video to pass through it to your 3D-capable HDTV, it fills your home theater with 600 watts of lush, engrossing surround sound, putting you center stage in your movies and games. It supports all of the high-def Blu-ray Disc soundtrack formats, including high-end, lossless ones such as DTS-HD Master Audio.

Sync With iOS Devices

Something that sets the HW-D600 apart from most receivers is the fact that it comes with an iPod/iPhone dock right out of the box. Slip your iPod or iPhone into the docking cradle, and you'll be able to enjoy your music and podcasts in surround sound, along with your videos and photos on the big screen of your HDTV. The dock will also recharge your iOS device during playback, which you'll be able to control with the HW-D600's remote.

Enjoy Optimal A/V

The HW-D600 comes fortified with a host of technologies to assure you of the best audio experience. Its Crystal Amp Pro feature clarifies sound by filtering out interference and distortion. The receiver automatically calibrates the audio you hear to ensure that you're getting optimal sound quality. What's more, the HW-D600 incorporates advanced Lip Sync technology, which lets you compensate for any lag between your audio and video.

Turn Your HDTV Into A Cinematic Experience

Why Audio Is A Must

A big HDTV screen is only part of a home theater experience. Without adding a speaker solution to your setup, you're missing a significant piece of the entertainment puzzle. Read on to learn why you can't rely on an HDTV's speakers and why an audio add-on is a must.

HOME THEATER



If you want to kick back and be entertained without disturbing others, a pair of headphones is the perfect audio solution. See page 68 for some options.

Rocketfish Rocketboost Wireless Stereo Headphones
SKU: 9985202

Hear The Dialogue

A home theater sound system isn't just a nice thing to have—it actually has a practical purpose. The built-in speakers of your HDTV combine movie audio into two channels: one for its left speaker and one for its right. The problem is that most movies have surround-sound audio. Played over two speakers, a movie's music will often drown out the lines the actors are saying. HT sound systems dedicate a center speaker solely to dialogue, making it easy to understand.

Get Cinematic Sound

How important is audio to your enjoyment of a movie? Well, a big part of "Star Wars'" appeal back in the day was its innovative (and now instantly identifiable) sound effects. If you're currently relying on your HDTV's built-in speakers, head to an electronics store's home theater section for a demonstration of surround sound. A 5.1- or 7.1-channel system's multiple speakers envelop you in sound like a movie theater—just as the film director intended.

Turn A Small Space Into A Screening Room

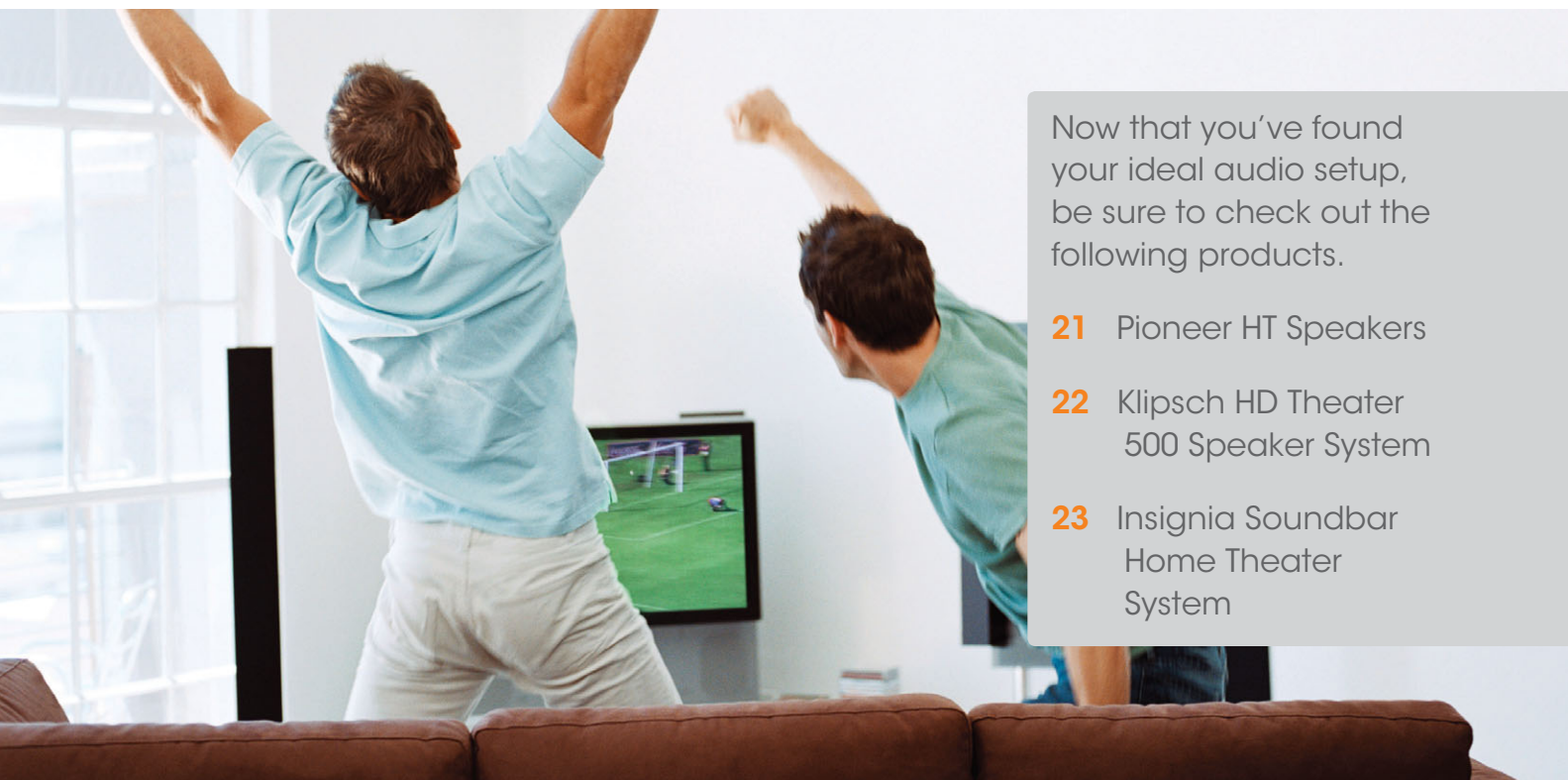
Even if your TV room doesn't lend itself to a multi-speaker system, you can still maximize your home theater audio. A soundbar is a long unit packed with various speakers. Put it under your HDTV screen, and it will use wall reflections and other means to make it sound like you really have surround speakers mounted around the room. Paired with a subwoofer for bass, a soundbar can convince your ears that you're at the movies.

Complement Your HDTV With Stellar Sound

Audio For All

There's no question that a home theater audio system can engage you in your movies and sports like your TV's integrated speakers never could. You can select surround-sound components, buy them in a kit, or choose a more space-saving unit.

HOME THEATER



Now that you've found your ideal audio setup, be sure to check out the following products.

- 21** Pioneer HT Speakers
- 22** Klipsch HD Theater 500 Speaker System
- 23** Insignia Soundbar Home Theater System

Individual Components

If you buy your home theater audio devices separately, you can be sure you'll get the exact features you want.

- An A/V receiver (see page 16)
- Satellite (surround) speakers
- Center-channel speaker for dialogue
- A subwoofer for deep bass
- Speaker wire and HDMI cables

Speaker Systems/HTiBs

An HTiB (home theater in a box) is a kit containing an entire surround-sound audio system (minus cables, typically).

- All the speakers you'll need
- An entry-level or midrange receiver
- Possibly some speaker wall mounts or floor stands
- Often a DVD or BD player

Soundbars

A soundbar is a relatively long unit that contains a number of speakers. Place it horizontally above or below your HDTV, and it can simulate surround sound quite convincingly using wall reflections and other techniques. Soundbars are more compact than traditional surround-sound setups, easier to install, and better suited to rooms with irregular shapes. Many come with a subwoofer for impressive bass response.

A High-Quality & Budget-Friendly Solution

Pioneer HT Speakers

To take your home theater to another level, Pioneer (www.pioneerelectronics.com) speaker components were masterfully designed to deliver optimal sound. Enlisting the expertise of renowned speaker engineer Andrew Jones, a high-quality, high-value series was born.

HOME THEATER



**1 Pioneer SP-C21
Center Channel
Speaker**
SKU: 1147943

**2 Pioneer SP-FS51-LR
Floorstanding
Loudspeaker Pair**
SKU: 1147998

**3 Pioneer SW-8
Powered
Subwoofer**
SKU: 1148087

**4 Pioneer SP-BS21-LR
Bookshelf
Loudspeaker Pair**
SKU: 1148218

Benefit From An Advanced Design

Unlike comparably priced speakers that use a low-cost "box style" cabinet, Pioneer's bookshelf, floor standing, and center speaker all have a curved cabinet design. This creates a rigid speaker body that won't impair sound waves and allows the speaker to deliver precise audio clarity. Adding to the modern look of the curved cabinet design, each speaker has individual driver metal grills to protect its internal components.

Pay A Smaller Price For Premium Quality

Designed by the famous speaker engineer Andrew Jones, this series integrates high-end expertise and pure audio reproduction. For instance, the Pioneer home theater speakers don't use a low-cost crossover design composed of a single capacitor and inductor, as found in other audio solutions. Instead, they use a six-component, high-quality crossover for full-spectrum audio clarity. What's more, this audio solution doesn't come with a premium price.

Build Your Complete Speaker Set

You can individually purchase speakers from the Pioneer series or combine them to create a complete surround-sound audio setup. There are four speakers in the lineup—the bookshelf speaker pair, the floor standing speaker pair, center speaker, and subwoofer. The center speaker is placed above or below your TV and the subwoofer wherever it's most convenient, but you can choose between the bookshelf or floor standing units to fit your layout.



Klipsch HD Theater 500 Speaker System

Powerful, Lifelike Audio

A compact home-theater system that's simple to set up and use, the Klipsch HD Theater 500 Speaker System (www.klipsch.com) offers four identical speakers to immerse you in your media, a center channel for precise dialogue, and a subwoofer for heart-thumping effects.

HOME THEATER



Klipsch HD Theater 500 Speaker System | SKU: 9385747



Complement Your HDTV

Sleek, modern, and versatile, the Klipsch HD Theater 500 5.1-channel speaker system provides ear-pleasing audio that will complement your HDTV's advanced video features. From the center channel speaker you'll hear dialogue with clarity and intricate audio nuances to bring visual content to life. And if you're looking for impressive aesthetics, the high-gloss, piano black HD Theater 500 speakers are clean and classy companions for any flat-panel HDTV.

Hear Lifelike Sound

What sets the HD Theater 500 apart from other acoustic components is each speaker's horn-loaded technology, engineered by Klipsch. The exclusive horn design consumes less energy to drive more sound with genuinely lifelike results. Moreover, the wall-busting deep bass that comes out of the Klipsch subwoofer won't blend in with the rest of the system's audio output thanks to its stout 8-inch driver.

Get A Custom Fit

Not all home theaters are alike. That's why the HD Theater 500 includes wall brackets with a 40-degree range of motion and a center channel cradle base boasting a 45-degree range. With this flexibility, you can comfortably place your Klipsch speakers vertically or horizontally to achieve your desired listening position. Each speaker also includes thread inserts to accommodate a floorstand configuration.

FirstGlimpse

A Soundbar Fits Where Surround Speakers Won't

Surround, Simplified

Your flat-panel HDTV is a streamlined device that can really impress, so why not pair it with a slim soundbar? This sleek speaker unit simulates surround sound from a single unit. A soundbar is easy to set up, and it's a great choice for an oddly shaped room.

HOME THEATER



Polk Audio SurroundBar 3000 2.1-Channel
Instant Home Theater Speaker System | SKU: 9742882

From One, Many

A soundbar looks like an unusually long speaker unit. It's intended to lie horizontally just below or above your HDTV screen. Inside a soundbar's case is an array of left, right, and center speakers. Using techniques such as reflections off your walls, a soundbar can simulate surround sound very vividly. In fact, in most cases, it can fool your ears into "hearing" side and rear speakers that aren't there. Many soundbars come with a wired or wireless subwoofer for deep bass.

Zero-Hassle Setup

It's really easy to install a soundbar, especially when you compare it to a traditional, multi-speaker surround sound system. Connect one or two cables, and you're done. Because a soundbar doesn't require rear or side speakers, you'll have no need to string speaker wires across the room, and no need to tuck them under your baseboards or route them through your walls. And speaking of your walls, you won't need to drill any holes to mount surround speakers.

Any Room Can Be An HT

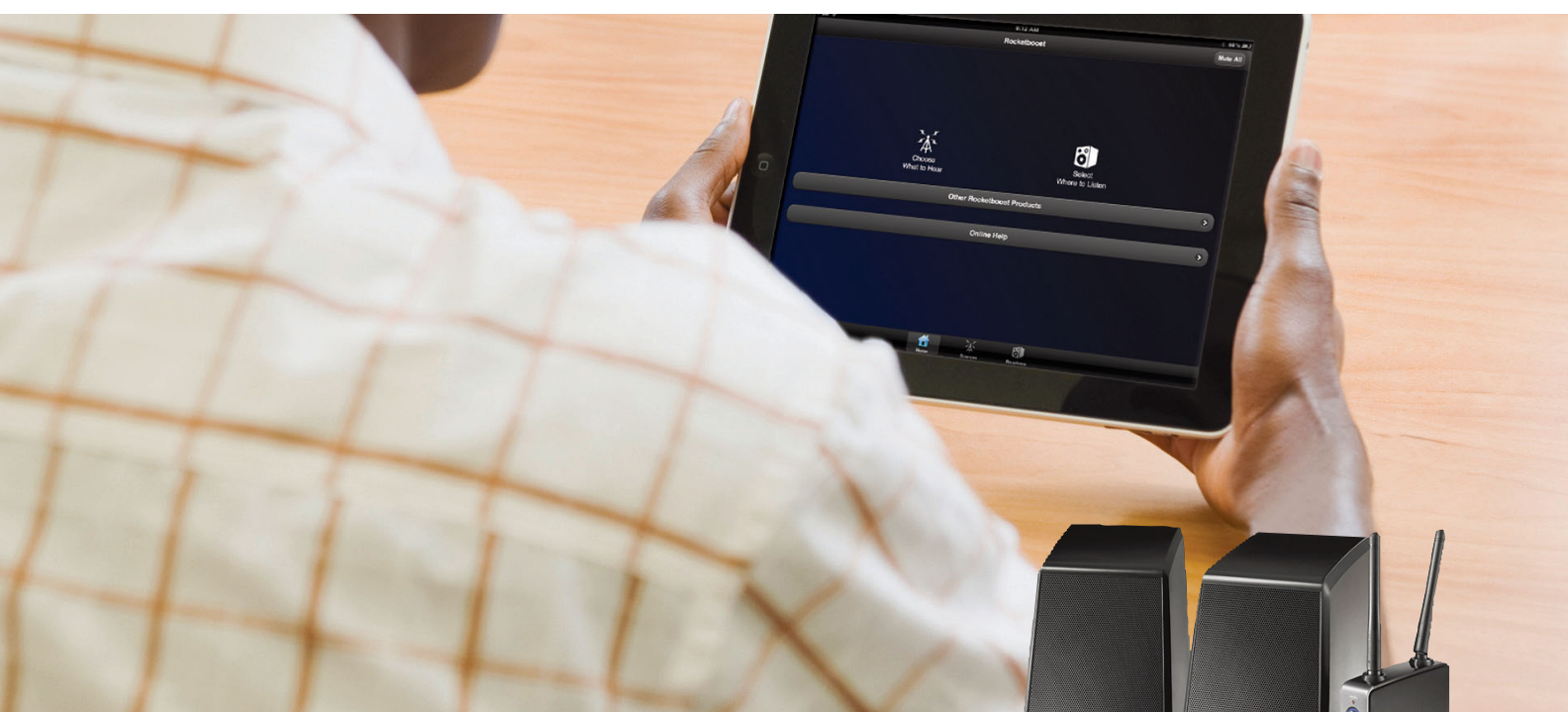
Some rooms just aren't good candidates for a traditional surround sound setup, which works best when you mount its four or six satellite speakers the same distance from your seat. If your home theater is irregularly shaped, or if there's a staircase behind your sofa, it could be difficult to mount surround speakers for optimal audio. A soundbar doesn't have this disadvantage—it can simulate multichannel audio convincingly in most types of rooms.

Rocketboost Wireless Audio With App Control

Stream Your Music

You're not tied to one spot, so why should your music be? With Rocketboost wireless technology (www.rocketboost.com), your play-lists and other audio can follow you to other rooms, the garage, or your patio. A new app for your smart device puts you in control.

HOME THEATER



Rocketfish Rocketboost Wireless Bookshelf Speakers | SKU: 2053402

How It Works

It's easy to send audio between a growing number of Rocketboost-enabled devices, such as from your home theater A/V receiver to a wireless bookshelf speaker in your laundry room. Link your TV to a compatible outdoor speaker, and you'll be able to hear the play-by-play of the big game while you're tending the BBQ. You can also stream your favorite play-lists from any PC with a Rocketboost USB sending device.

Why Rocketboost?

The first thing about Rocketboost to catch your eye might be its logo on various speaker systems, AV Receivers, and headphones. Next you may notice the attractive pricing of compatible components. But don't let Rocketboost's affordability fool you: It's a robust wireless technology capable of streaming HD-quality audio throughout your home, including Blu-ray Disc formats such as DTS-HD Master Audio. Rocketboost is easy to use and expandable, too.

Smart Device Control

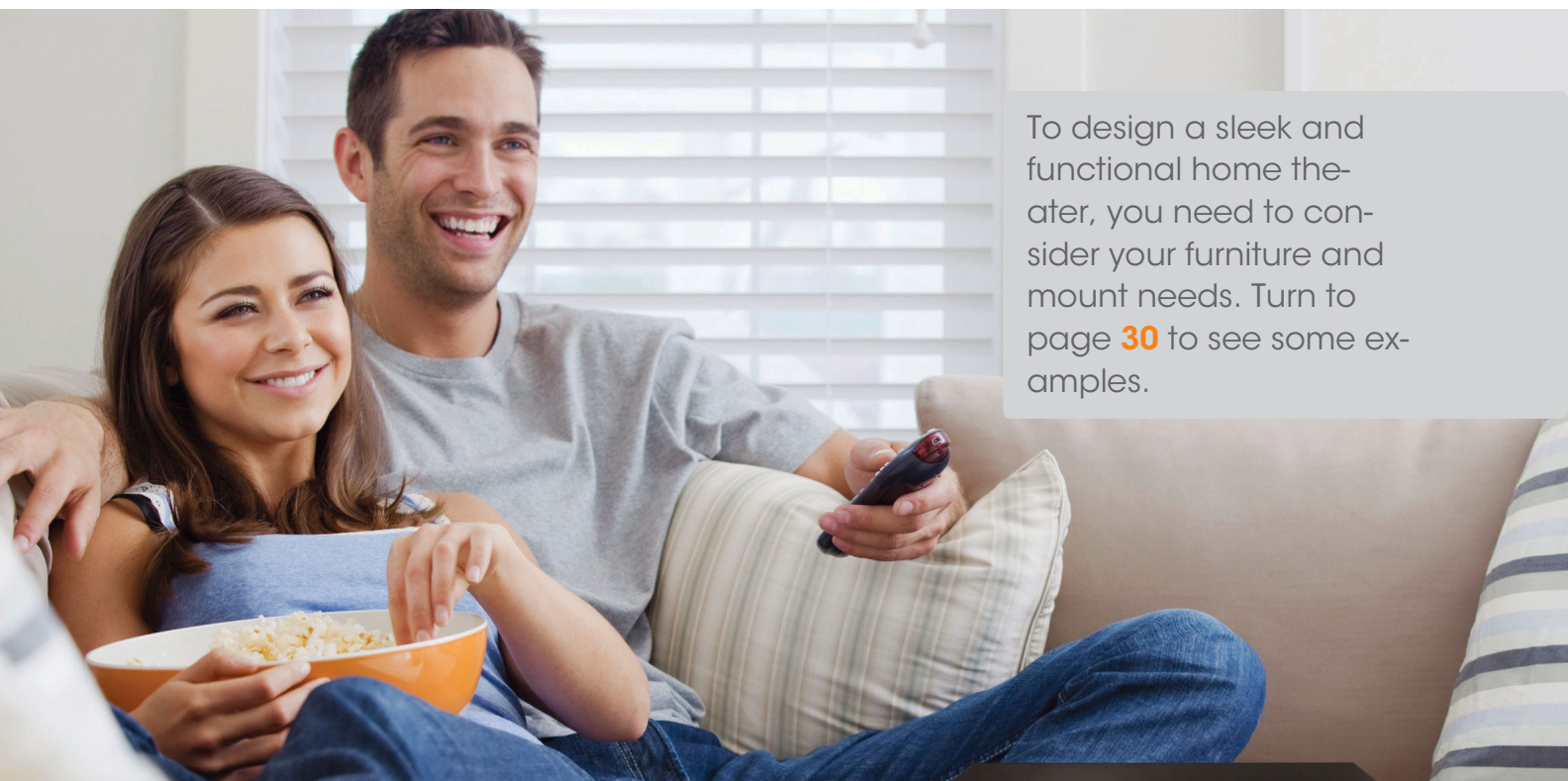
Tablets and smartphones naturally make excellent remotes for home entertainment devices, thanks to their touchscreens and intuitive operation. That's why the new Rocketboost Control app is such exciting news. It transforms your iPad, iPhone, or iPod touch into an easy-to-understand control center for your streaming audio. Rocketboost Control is a free download for your iOS 4.2 device and PC. Take the next step and enjoy music wirelessly.

Get The Features You Want Most

BD Player Perks

Amazingly, you can now buy high-end features in even modestly priced Blu-ray Disc players. That said, a more upscale model can ensure that you'll get *all* of the features you're looking for. (Of course, BD players will also play your collection of DVDs.)

HOME THEATER



To design a sleek and functional home theater, you need to consider your furniture and mount needs. Turn to page **30** to see some examples.

Dynex DX-WBRDVD1 Wi-Fi Built-In Blu-ray Player
SKU: 2333036



Smart Connectivity

- Apps to access online streaming services such as Netflix, Best Buy CinemaNow, Hulu Plus, and more
- Wi-Fi networking (built-in or with an adapter sold separately)
- Audio/video streaming from your PC
- BD-Live online bonus content
- USB storage device support

3D Thrills & Chills

"Avatar", "Star Wars", "Harry Potter"—more and more blockbusters are going 3D. With a Full HD 1080p 3D-capable Blu-ray Disc player, you can experience in-your-face cinema entertainment right in your own home. Even if you don't have a 3D HDTV and compatible A/V receiver at the moment, it's a good idea to be ready for upgrades down the road—especially when you consider that buying a 3D-capable Blu-ray Disc player may not cost as much as you think.

Full HD Audio Support

You may already know that BD video has up to five times more detail than legacy DVD, but are you aware how much better HD audio is? Blu-ray Discs support soundtracks recorded in lossless audio formats, so they sound as amazing as the movie director intended. To make sure that you can enjoy the best sound quality BD has to offer, buy a player that can decode DTS-HD Master Audio and Dolby TrueHD audio formats in full 7.1- or 5.1-channel sound.

Do It Yourself

Manage HT Cables

Cables carry power to your home theater components, not to mention audio and video to your speakers and TV. Of course, if you'd rather see the entertainment on-screen than the tangle of cables that make it possible, here's some help.

HOME THEATER



Actiontec MyWirelessTV HD Video Kit
SKU: 3179233

Straps & Wraps

Taming your cables becomes a lot easier if you tie them together in a more manageable bundle. There's a huge variety of straps, ties, and cable wraps you can use to combine and route your cords. Most are not only easy to use, but also easy to remove should you later want to add or rearrange devices.

Conduits & Plates

More permanent solutions to cable clutter include conduits and wall plates. Conduits, also called raceways, hide your cables as they channel them along a wall or baseboard. Should you need to route cables through a wall or ceiling, a wall plate can cover the hole and make it look more attractive.

Special Tools

Stores that sell cable management supplies may also sell the various tools you may need to get the job done. If you're planning to install conduit or run your cables through walls or ceilings, for example, you might need an electric screwdriver with multiple bits, a set of pliers, a tape measure, and other tools.

Wireless Options

In some cases, the best cable management technique is to get rid of a cable—that is, to replace it with a wireless system. For instance, a wireless HD set employs a transmitter and receiver to carry high-def content from one device, such as a Blu-ray Disc player, to your HDTV without the need for a long HDMI cable.

More Media On Your Time

Connect Everything

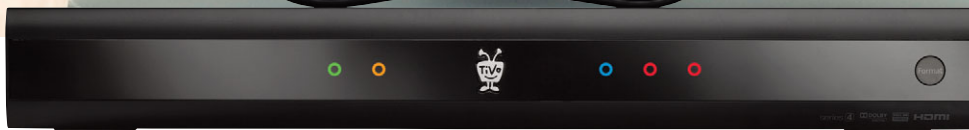
Home theater connectivity goes beyond the devices you hook up to your HDTV. By supplementing your cable, satellite, or over-the-air programming with what's available via the Web, there's almost no limit to what you can watch, stream, and download.

HOME THEATER

Learn about the latest home theater apps and the benefits they offer on page **28**.



TiVo Premiere Advanced DVR
SKU: 9744971



Get Instant Entertainment

An Internet-capable HDTV, disc player, set-top box, or other component lets you instantly stream your favorite movies, TV shows, videos, music, and more to your home theater. Using Wi-Fi or an Ethernet connection, these devices provide access to different media services as well as the latest news, weather, and social media updates via apps. There are also HDTVs and set-top boxes that support a full Web browsing that's similar to what you'd experience on your PC.

Make The Most Of Apps

Not all Web-connected devices offer the same apps, but there's a wide variety to fit your personal interests. Most Web-connected devices let you use media services such as Netflix, CinemaNow, or Hulu Plus to immediately stream or download TV shows and movies. (It's worth noting that some of those services require a subscription.) Additional apps might connect you to podcasts, flight information, Web videos, games, and Internet radio stations at the touch of a button.

Add Connected Audio

Imagine listening to any song at any time through your surround-sound speakers. This is no fantasy when your speaker system supports Internet radio streaming. For example, some full-featured audio systems include a smart Blu-ray Disc player that connects to the Web or speakers that feature built-in radio services. Remember, there's a World Wide Web of content you can discover when you own a connected home theater.

Tune In More Media With Your Remote

Must-Have HT Apps

Sights, sounds, and social interaction—that's what you can find online with the right set of apps. Here's a look at 10 apps available on different smart home theater devices.

HOME THEATER

To quickly load content from Web apps, you need a powerful router. The Netgear N900 on page 47 is one solution.



Netflix

Tap into this popular subscription service for thousands upon thousands of streaming, full-length HD movies and shows.



YouTube

From the latest viral videos to how-to tutorials, and from documentaries to musical performances, YouTube has it.



Pandora Radio

Internet radio attuned to your personal taste. Type in a favorite song or artist, and Pandora will stream similar music to you.



CinemaNow

Best Buy CinemaNow offers new release movies and next-day TV in HD video and surround sound.



Blockbuster

You don't have to pay a monthly fee to buy or rent new release movies through the Blockbuster Movie Store app.



Picasa

Enhance your photo organization with this app. It links you to your account on the useful Picasa photo site.



Hulu Plus

Your subscription gives you access to entire seasons of current episodes of popular TV shows in up to HD resolution.



Flickr

This app puts you in command of your gallery on the Flickr photo sharing site. Organize, edit, and share your images.



Facebook

Keep in touch with friends and family members through Facebook. Post status updates, share your pics, and send private messages.



Twitter

Follow your favorite artists, public figures, companies, and more. Post brief "tweets" to tell your own followers what's on your mind.

Upgrade For The Best In Web Entertainment

Find The Right Router

With the boom of Web media, more home theater devices offer built-in Internet capabilities. But to wirelessly stream high-quality media to an HDTV, AV receiver, Blu-ray player, or other smart device, you need a wireless router that provides a fast and reliable connection.

HOME THEATER

Give your home theater the gift of Wireless N with the Netgear N900 Router on page 47.



NETGEAR N900 Wireless Dual Band Gigabit Router | SKU: 3219043

Wireless N Routers

- Wireless N networks can sustain a theoretical maximum data rate of up to 300Mbps, which translates to faster media downloads to your HDTV and sound system.
- MIMO (Multiple Input/Multiple Output) technology uses more than one antenna to send and receive data. In turn, this lets you stream media that's glitch-free.
- Wireless N devices have effective ranges of up to 300 feet, so they can provide an Internet connection to your smart TV, Blu-ray Disc player, plus tablets and laptops.
- Operational on a 2.4GHz band, wireless N routers are backward-compatible with 802.11b/g devices. Some are dual band, offering a 5GHz band exclusively to N or A devices.

Wireless G Routers

- A wireless G router operates using the 802.11g Wi-Fi signal standard, which can deliver data at up to 54Mbps.
- Considered an older wireless standard, wireless G transmits signals that are nearly six times slower than wireless N.
- Devices with an 802.11b/g Wi-Fi adapter can send and receive data with a wireless G router, because both standards can operate on a 2.4GHz frequency.
- The Wireless G standard gives you just enough speed to surf the Internet and send emails, but to stream video, watch TV shows, or play graphic-heavy games you'll need a faster router technology.

Essential Accessories

As you head toward the HDTV section of your local CE retailer, you'll pass shelves filled with HDTV accessories. To get the most out of your HDTV, you should invest in some key accessories for a complete home theater setup.

HOME THEATER

Pinnacle Design TV40901 Stand For Flat-Panel TVs Up To 52 Inches

SKU: 1894121

www.pinnacledesign.net

A TV Stand Is Perfect For: Storing home theater components such as disc players and DVRs while also giving your HDTV a place to sit. Stands are available in many different styles and finishes to match your décor, and they're a great alternative to mounting your



TV on a wall. Some models also include cable management features to keep cords out of sight.

Dynex Direct 6' HDMI Cable

SKU: 9343061

www.dynexproducts.com

An HDMI Cable Is Perfect For: Watching HD content on your HDTV with top picture and audio quality. This cable connection carries both high-resolution video and uncompressed multi-channel audio between



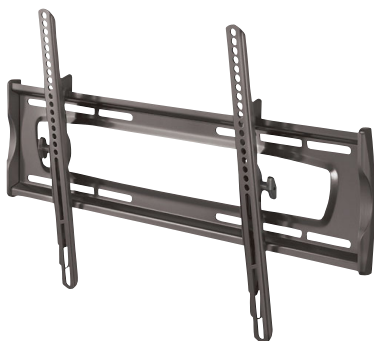
HDTVs, home theater receivers, and the other components in your home theater setup. What's more, using an HDMI cable cuts down on your amount of cable clutter.

Rocketfish Low-Profile Tilting Wall Mount For Most 32- to 70-inch HDTVs

SKU: 9881868

www.rocketfishproducts.com

A Wall Mount Is Perfect For: Getting rid of your old TV stand or entertainment center to reclaim some floor space. One of the attractions of a flat-panel HDTV is the fact that you can hang it on your wall. Some mounts offer control over the angle of your screen, so you can avoid window glare, for example.



360 Electrical 12-Outlet Swivel Surge Protector

SKU: 9902504

www.360electrical.com

A Surge Protector Is Perfect For: Protecting your home theater from potential damage caused by fluctuations in electricity. A surge protector constantly monitors the electrical current that's fed to your components. If excess voltage occurs, it's absorbed by the surge protector like a sponge. This ensures your home theater will give you its peak performance for the longest amount of time.



Audio & Video The Way It Should Be

HDTV Calibration

Out of the box, an HDTV's audio and video settings are programmed to make it look and sound the best in a retail environment. Because it's unlikely your home theater is noisy and fluorescent-lit, you need your HDTV professionally calibrated to match its unique setting.

HOME THEATER

See In-Store **DEMO**



Service Details

- An ISF-certified installer will visit your home and optimize your HDTV's audio and video so you can enjoy content the way it's intended to be heard and seen.
- Using professional calibration tools, the installer will adjust video settings to meet ISF standards on two different source inputs.
- To create a tidy home-theater appearance, the installer will dress all cables and wires behind your HDTV.
- Any special features or capabilities of your HDTV's remote control that may be helpful to you now or in the future will be explained by the installer.

Calibration Benefits

- Overall, the quality of your HDTV's on-screen images will be better and look more true to life. Notably, skin tones and snow scenes won't appear off-color.
- To ensure a fully immersive audio experience, your surround-sound speaker levels will be optimized and the position of your speakers will be checked.
- Your TV's contrast will yield brighter whites and darker blacks, letting you see details you wouldn't have noticed before.
- Cable management makes it easy to identify inputs and outputs and keeps your home-theater setup tidy.

Get The Most From Your Home Theater INVESTMENT

HOME THEATER



BUY BACK PROGRAM

While it may be brand new now, your HDTV or disc player can quickly become outdated by new features and technologies. To ensure you always have the latest and greatest, purchasing the Best Buy Buy Back program with your home-theater purchase is a wise investment.

Pay the one-time program fee, and within four years you can bring back your HDTV, or within two years your disc player, to Best Buy in exchange for a gift card to use toward a new device.

BD or DVD Player Purchase Price

\$149.99 or less
\$150 or more

One-Time Program Fee

\$7.99
\$14.99

HDTV Player Purchase Price

\$499.99 or less
\$500 to \$1,199.99
\$1,200 to \$2,499.99
\$2,500 to \$4,999.99

One-Time Program Fee

\$39.99
\$59.99
\$99.99
\$179.99

Time Passed Since Your Purchase

Up to 6 months
6 to 12 months
12 to 18 months
18 to 24 months

Buy Back Amount Given

50%
40%
30%
20%

Camera Setup & Training Online Support Card

If you want to learn the ins and outs about your new camera, you can get one full hour of assistance from a Geek Squad agent for only \$29.95. All you need to do is purchase an online support card and when you need help, activate the card. From there, an agent can remotely tie in to your computer and teach you how to do the following:

- **Transfer photos** from your camera to the computer or from your computer to an online Web site
- **Import photos** to the photo editing program of your choice
- **Use the software** that came with your camera (or a free program of your choice) to perform basic photo edits like removing red-eye
- **Use all the basic functions** of your new camera (through a 15 minutes Q&A session on camera operations)



GEEK SQUAD® BLACK TIE PROTECTION

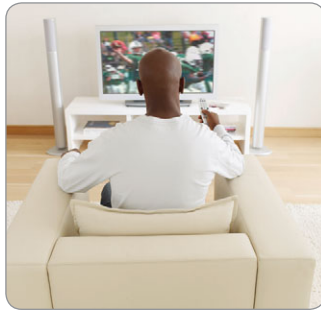
Black Tie Protection offers troubleshooting support and services for up to four years. Geek Squad agents will keep your camera operating at its peak and fix problems that occur due to normal wear/tear. With a special "lemon" policy, if your camera needs to be fixed more than four times, you'll get a new camera! Under the Premium Plan, you also get the following:

- **Telephone trouble-shooting** up to four times a year
- **Annual maintenance** to clean and inspect your camera

HDTV Glossary

Balderdash! OK, HDTV jargon isn't quite that bad, but there are a few terms that every shopper needs to know. Here is your cheat sheet.

HOME THEATER



aspect ratio—Put simply, it's the shape of the TV's screen. An HDTV has a wider picture than a traditional TV of the same vertical screen height. An HDTV has a 16:9 aspect ratio, meaning that if its screen were 16 inches wide, it would be 9 inches tall. A regular 4:3 TV screen would be 12 inches wide at the same 9-inch height.

HDMI (High-Definition Multimedia Interface)—A type of cable connection that carries both high-resolution video and uncompressed multichannel audio between HDTVs, home-theater receivers, and the other components required for your home-theater setup. HDMI cables maintain top picture and sound quality.

HD tuner—A built-in tuner for receiving local high-def broadcast TV channels. You won't need one if you have cable or satellite service. Most HDTVs include one, but separate HD tuners and antennas are available if your TV doesn't have one.

interlaced—When an HDTV displays an interlaced image, as in 1080i or 480i resolutions, it really shows you

every other horizontal line of a frame of video (called a field) at a time. Sixty times a second, the TV displays the other field of the frame, or the lines not shown in the previous field. Interlaced video can appear to flicker or might cause moving objects on-screen to have blurred edges.

LCD (liquid-crystal display)—Like a notebook's screen, an LCD HDTV uses a fluid crystal substance to form pixels of color in front of a backlight. LCDs may not be able to match plasma TVs' deep black and gray areas, but they're lighter, sometimes less fragile, and considered easier to set up. These work better in brighter rooms or if you will be playing unchanging images on the screen for an extended period of time.

plasma—Plasma TVs use a tiny tube of gas for each pixel, and electricity makes each pixel glow. Plasmas create deeper blacks and sometimes brighter colors than LCDs and have better contrast. These also offer slightly better viewing angles. However, older or less expensive models can also suffer from permanent screen damage if an unchanging image, such as a TV channel's

stock ticker or parts of certain video games, is displayed too long.

progressive scan—A TV showing a progressively scanned image, as in 1080p or 720p resolutions, displays a full frame of video (both odd-lined and even-lined fields) all at once. Progressive scan video looks sharper than interlaced does and doesn't flicker.

projection—Some large-screen HDTVs offer lower-priced alternatives to LCDs or plasmas by using projection technologies. These technologies vary, but all projection TVs throw light on a screen from the front or rear. This means they are bulkier than plasmas or LCDs, but some sets have stellar picture quality.

viewing angle—No matter where you sit in front of an HDTV with a wide viewing angle, such as 170 degrees, its picture should look reasonably good. Test this before you buy.

widescreen—A TV or monitor that's wider horizontally in relation to its vertical height. HDTVs typically have a 16:9 aspect ratio rather than an older 4:3 display.

Capture Your Special Moments In High-Quality Images

A milestone birthday. An anniversary party. A romantic cruise. These are just a few of the momentous occasions you want to photograph and record. To learn about the best camera equipment to freeze those memories in time, browse this month's digital imaging section.

DIGITAL IMAGING



Canon EOS 60D EF-S 18-135mm IS Lens Kit
SKU: 1221963

Choose A Model That Delivers

D-SLR (digital single-lens reflex) and compact system cameras offer a unique benefit point-and-shoots don't: You can use a different lens for every scenario. Either model can deliver high-quality, lifelike photos and videos. Additionally, both feature manual settings that give you more control over how your photos look.

Take Better Photos & Video

Most cameras are equipped with a plethora of special features that streamline your photographic experience. Scene settings, optical zoom, and image stabilization are standard on many models, but you probably won't find these capabilities on a smartphone's built-in camera.

Adjust The Lighting

Because lighting directly impacts the appearance of a photograph, accessories such as camera filters and flashes can brighten shadows and sharpen distant landscapes. Among other purposes, a flash may help reduce red-eye, whereas a filter blocks glare from your D-SLR or compact system lens.

Try A Durable Camera

Durable cameras aren't simply for extreme sports enthusiasts, but rather for anyone who wants a camera that can reliably withstand a dip underwater, cold temps, sandy beaches, and accidental drops. Unsurprisingly, durable cams have become quite popular with parents of small children.

Take Better Pictures With Camera Lenses

Your D-SLR or compact system camera probably came bundled with a good lens for all-around use. A sound reason to consider buying another lens is because it will help your camera take much better pictures in certain situations.

DIGITAL IMAGING

Telephoto & Macro Lens



Wide-Angle & Fisheye Lens



Canon EF-S 55-250mm f/4-5.6 IS II Telephoto Zoom Lens

SKU: 8758114



See
p. 36

Telephoto & Macro Lenses

Athletes, musicians, and wildlife are usually far away from you when they're doing something photogenic. With a telephoto lens, you can "zoom in" on the action and make it seem much closer.

Also called a zoom lens, a telephoto uses a series of carefully matched optics to magnify the image your camera sees. Many telephotos let you adjust their magnification, so you can zoom out for closer subjects.

Speaking of closer subjects, if you want to photograph items close-up, a macro lens can help you focus.

Wide-Angle & Fisheye Lenses

It's hard to capture the majestic expanse of a landscape with a standard lens. Likewise, in a small room, it's hard to include everyone in a group photo. You simply can't back up far enough to squeeze in those people on the edges.

A wide-angle lens can handle the squeezing for you. A wide-angle is a mild version of a "fisheye" lens. It's designed to widen your shot without distorting the image.

You can get stronger image correction with a super wide-angle lens. A fisheye lens can broaden your shot even more, but it will make straight lines appear noticeably curved.

EOS Optics For Any Scene

Canon

Canon EF/EF-S Lenses

Canon EOS DSLRs (www.canoneos.com) give you the flexibility to match your lens to each shot, for images that will amaze you. A trio of EF and EF-S lenses from Canon bring advanced technology to virtually any shooting situation.

DIGITAL IMAGING



**Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 II
Prime Lens** | SKU: 2473035



**Canon EF-S 55-250mm f/4-5.6 IS II Telephoto
Zoom Lens** | SKU: 8758114



**Canon EF 100mm f/2.8 USM
Macro Lens** | SKU: 7170189

For Everyday Photos

Canon EF 50mm f/1.8 II Prime Lens
SKU: 3473035

- The prime lens is your go-to model for standard shots
- Excellent color balance
- Weighs only 4.6 ounces
- Wider aperture provides better low-light pics and shallow depth of field

Excellent Zoom

Canon EF-S 55-250mm f/4-5.6 IS II
SKU: 8758114

- A telephoto lens brings the action closer. It's ideal for capturing faraway subjects such as wildlife, performances, and sports events
- IS lets you use slower shutter speeds for longer handheld exposures
- The lens' UD-glass components improve contrast and sharpness

Portraits & Close-Ups

Canon EF 100mm f/2.8 Macro USM
SKU: 7170189

- Good for portrait shots and manually focusing at any time
- Get sharp close-ups of object details
- Life-size (1x) enlargement from up to 5.9 inches away
- Ring USM (ultrasonic motor) for fast, silent auto-focus

FirstGlimpse

Choose From D-SLR Or Compact System Cameras

Advanced Cameras

D-SLR (digital single-lens reflex) cameras and compact system cameras share an important difference from pocket-sized point-and-shoots: You can change their lenses for different photographic situations. Read on to discover which of these cameras may be right for you.

DIGITAL IMAGING



With the right lens, you can capture better shots. Turn to page **35** to see why you shouldn't rely solely on a kit lens.

Canon EOS Rebel T3i 18-55mm IS II Lens Kit
SKU: 1980124

D-SLRs: The Professional's Choice

Picture a photographer covering sports, nature, celebrities, or news. The camera in her hands is likely a D-SLR.

Like the SLR film cameras that preceded it, a D-SLR has a moving mirror assembly inside it. It lets you see exactly what the lens sees when you look through the viewfinder. Press the shutter button, however, and the mirror pivots aside with a "click" to expose a large image sensor.

Besides interchangeable lenses, D-SLRs are known for their high image quality in both photos and video. You'll get amazing color and clarity, along with a hot shoe for a flash attachment and advanced automatic and manual settings.

CS Cams: D-SLR Benefits, Smaller Size

A compact system camera aims for the middle ground between D-SLRs and point-and-shoot cameras. Its purpose is to give you image quality and versatility like a D-SLR, but in a much trimmer, slimmer package. A CS camera can be less bulky than a D-SLR because it leaves out the moving mirror.

Like a D-SLR's, a CS camera's large image sensor gathers more light with less electronic noise than a point-and-shoot's tiny sensor. You'll be able to shoot very clean, lifelike pics and video in automatic mode, but you'll also have a broad range of manual settings. Also like a D-SLR, a CS model has a hot shoe and a mount for telephoto, wide-angle, and other lenses.

Go Easy On The Wallet & Shoot With The Best

Many photographers want a high-quality lens or more powerful camera, but they can't justify the premium cost. If you can't afford upfront costs today, you can take advantage of in-store financing to take home the equipment you used to dream about.

DIGITAL IMAGING



See
p. 36

Canon EF 100mm f/2.8L Macro IS USM Lens
SKU: 7170189

Sign Up For A Card

CE retailers offer monthly financing so you can pay in small increments for your purchase, rather than a huge lump sum. This option is often available when you sign up for an in-store credit card. By making this small commitment, you'll be able to take your new digital imaging item home and use it right away.

Choose A Finance Plan

If you don't have the funds to pay now, you can often choose a long-term financing plan that lasts anywhere from six to up to 36 months. (The total cost of your purchase may determine which payment plan you're eligible for.) In general, annual financing fees are waived if you pay with your in-store credit card.

Bypass Interest Payments

You really can take home that feature-packed HD camcorder you've been eyeing, without paying interest. You don't have to compromise your long-term financial goals either: If you pay off your total balance in full by the end of your financing term and you don't miss any monthly payments, you'll be debt free.

Get Rewarded For Purchases

An in-store credit card goes beyond a spending account. As a cardholder, you're also eligible for exclusive discounts and events, plus extended return policies. And with every purchase you make, you can earn points toward gift certificates you can use in-store or online.

Check Out Your Next Camera's Image Sensor

Digital cameras use a special chip called an image sensor to capture photos and video. It's sort of a reusable substitute for the film that old cameras used. Before you buy a new camera, take a moment to learn why its image sensor is so important.

DIGITAL IMAGING



Olympus PEN E-PM1
SKU: 3568773

Decipher Sensor Specs

Camera vendors use image sensors made with various technologies. Most are CMOS (complementary metal-oxide semiconductor) sensors, but some are BSI (back side illuminated) CMOS for better low light performance or CCD (charge-coupled device) in high-end cameras. All three sensor types are capable of taking very good pictures, so the main thing to consider is the image quality of the photos and videos a particular camera can produce.

Size Really Does Matter

Most point-and-shoot cameras' sensors are roughly half an inch in diagonal size, such as 1/2.3-inch or a larger 1/1.7-inch. Most sensors of an inch or bigger—the kind used in D-SLR and compact system cameras—have non-numeric names such as Four Thirds or APS-C. Bigger sensors tend to capture light with less electronic noise, resulting in crisper and clearer images. This is why the tiny sensors in typical cell phone cameras produce grainier pictures than most point-and-shoots.

Megapixels' Real Benefit

It's no longer true that the more megapixels (MPs, or millions of picture elements) a camera's image sensor has, the better its photos will be. Image quality has a lot of other factors, so your best bet is to compare cameras by how good their output looks.

That said, pictures you take at higher MP settings let you crop and enlarge them without losing much sharpness, if any. Low-MP images tend to get blocky when enlarged or cropped.

Enhance Your Photo Subjects With A Camera Flash

When there isn't enough natural light to snap a quality photo of your subject, a good flash can help evenly light your photographic scenario without overexposing it. To learn more about how to properly use a camera flash, read our must-know tips below.

DIGITAL IMAGING



Canon Speedlite 580EX II External Flash
SKU: 8303356

Create Ideal Lighting

A flash offers better control of lighting conditions when you're taking photos, particularly when you can direct the flash angle. Depending on the model, a camera may include a built-in or pop-up flash, but you can choose when to use flash modes such as fill or slow sync based on the quality of light in your scenario.

Use An External Flash

If you value the versatility of a flash, then consider adding an external (or dedicated) flash. You can use an external flash to bounce light onto your subject by reflecting it off the ceiling or a bounce card. This softens the light from the flash and reduces the appearance of red-eye.

Light Subjects At A Distance

Snapping the annual family reunion photo is usually a challenge, whether you're using a D-SLR or compact camera. However, a quality camera flash can appropriately light up your subjects from a distance so that no face looks too dark. Be sure to find out your camera's flash range before you take a photo from far away.

Diminish Shadows

Although you might assume you don't need a flash for outdoor photography, it's a good idea to use it even on bright, sunny days. Your camera flash can lighten a shadowed face caused by sunlight overhead or behind the subject, unlike a smartphone's camera flash that may not be powerful enough to mute shadows.

Take Command Of The Light For Incredible Photos

Lens Filters

Filters are camera accessories that not only protect your D-SLR or compact system lens, but also block particular qualities of ambient light to help you take better pictures. With a filter the right size for your lens, your images can have better contrast and colors that pop.

DIGITAL IMAGING



Rocketfish 72mm Circular Polarizer
SKU: 1034508

UV Filters

These popular filters can reduce or eliminate the ultraviolet light that reaches your camera's image sensor. A UV filter gets rid of the bluish haze in outdoor landscape photos that include snow, water, or the sky. By cutting the haze, a UV filter can make distant objects appear sharper, especially in black and white images.

Polarized Filters

A polarizer is a filter that lets in only light that is oriented in a particular direction. The effect, when it comes to photography, is to enhance the color and contrast of an image, especially outdoors. A polarized filter can also reduce white glare. Polarizers come with linear or circular patterns for different situations.

Skylight Filters

A skylight filter, unlike a UV or polarized filter, has a pinkish tint (UV filters and polarizers are neutral in color). However, a skylight filter does reduce the blue haze of the sky in a manner similar to a UV model. A skylight filter's faint pink cast also makes natural light appear warmer, bringing out red and orange colors.

Neutral Density

Occasionally you may want to take a picture showing the blur of an athlete in motion, or perhaps a close-up shot of a bride's wedding ring with everything behind it out of focus. Long exposure (leaving the shutter open a longer time) can help, but you'll want to use a neutral density filter to reduce the amount of light coming into the lens.

Essential Things To Know

Durable Cameras

A durable camera is made to withstand life's most exciting moments. Because most are waterproof, shockproof, dustproof, and freeze-proof, they can go where other cameras can't, or remain safe in the hands of little ones.

DIGITAL IMAGING



Olympus TG610
SKU: 2207078

Are durable cameras only for athletic and outdoor users?

Not at all. They're ideal for sports, hiking, and so on, but parents can benefit from them because they're more kid-proof than ordinary digital cameras. For instance, they can withstand sticky hands and beverage spills, drops (accidental and otherwise), and nights they're absent-mindedly left outdoors.

Does "waterproof" mean what it says?

Actually, a camera that says it's "waterproof" always has a depth limit, such as 10 feet underwater. Below the limit, pressure can force water into the camera.



Nikon Coolpix AW100
SKU: 3176102

What do "shockproof" and "crushproof" mean?

A shockproof—actually shock-resistant—camera can survive a drop of a certain number of feet to a hard surface. If a camera is crushproof, its body can withstand so many pounds of external physical pressure.

Why would I want a dustproof camera?

In ordinary electronic devices, dust can wear on parts and trap heat, causing premature failure. A camera with sealed compartments, seams, and ports can survive dusty conditions.

Why would I need a freezeproof camera?

A freezeproof camera is ideal for winter sports such as snow skiing. A durable camera's impact and moisture resistance would also come in handy during similar activities.

Are durable cameras limited to only digital zoom?

Not anymore. Manufacturers have devised ingenious ways to give certain models respectable levels of optical zoom, such as 4X or 5X.



Snap Professional-Looking Images With A D-SLR Or CS Camera

Digital-SLR cameras offer interchangeable lenses and typically high image quality. But picture this: CS (compact system) cams seek to provide D-SLR benefits in a camera almost as small as a point-and-shoot. Here's a snapshot of some of the latest models.

DIGITAL IMAGING

		Resolution	LCD size	ISO range	Kit lens	Burst speed	Shutter speed
	What It Means	Image sensor in megapixels; more means a bigger, more detailed image	Diagonal measurement of the screen on the back of the camera	A higher ISO range will let you take better photos of low-light action	Standard lens bundled with the camera body	Frames per second (fps) you can shoot while in burst mode	The wider the range, the greater the gamut of long exposures to frozen action
Compact System Cameras	 Nikon 1 V1 SKU: 4424021	10.1MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	10-30mm	10fps	30 to 1/16,000 seconds
	 Olympus PEN E-PL3 SKU: 3117259	12.3MP	3 inches	200 to 12800	14-42mm	5.5fps	60 to 1/4,000 seconds
	 Olympus PEN E-PM1 SKU: 3560274	12.3MP	3 inches	200 to 12800	14-42mm	5.5fps	60 to 1/4,000 seconds
	 Samsung NX200 SKU: 4038638	20.3MP	3 inches	100 to 12800	18-55mm	7fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
	 Sony Alpha NEX-7K/B SKU: 3819038	24.3MP	3 inches	100 to 16000	18-55mm	10fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
D-SLR Cameras	 Canon EOS 5D Mark II SKU: 9909482	21.1MP	3 inches	100 to 6400	24-105mm	3.9fps	30 to 1/8,000 seconds
	 Nikon D3100 SKU: 3099128	14.2MP	3 inches	100 to 12800	18-55mm	3fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds
	 Sony Alpha A65 SLT-A65VK SKU: 3512038	24.3MP	3 inches	100 to 16000	18-55mm	8fps	30 to 1/4,000 seconds

Essential Accessories

For all the time you spend mulling over which camera you want to buy, you should also give some thought to the accessories you'll need to go with it.

DIGITAL IMAGING

Canon WP-DC22 Waterproof Case For SC1100IS Cameras

SKU: 8804056
www.canon.com

A Case Is Perfect For: Screen protection, durability, and accessibility for your camera. Camera cases range in styles and sizes and features can include impact- and water-resistance, soft interior linings, and pockets to keep spare batteries or memory cards on hand.



Canon EF 100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS USM Zoom Lens

SKU: 6987512
www.canon.com

A Camera Lens Is Perfect For: Choosing the right optics for each photo you shoot. Your D-SLR or compact system camera may support a telephoto lens to bring the action up close, or a macro lens to capture tiny details. Meanwhile, polarizing and UV filters can help you get clear images under tough lighting conditions.



Manfrotto Midi Twin System Tripod And Fluid Head Kit

SKU:4088938
www.manfrotto.us

A Tripod Is Perfect For: Keeping a camera steady for crisp, sharply focused shots. Many tripods also come equipped with a three-way pan/tilt head that lets you fluidly follow subjects as you shoot video. And in the field, a very portable monopod can steady your cam for quick shots.



Dynex Universal AC/DC Charger For Cameras And Camcorders

SKU: 9462949
www.dynexproducts.com

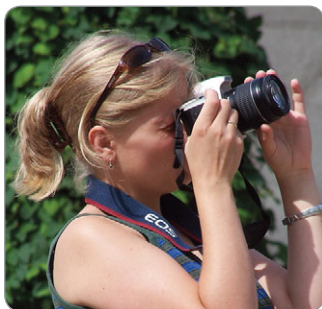
A Power Adapter Is Perfect For: Plugging your camera into an AC outlet or USB port to bring its battery back to a full charge. If you'd rather swap in a spare battery to keep on shooting, you can bring your dead battery back to life with a plug-in charging accessory.



Digital Imaging Glossary

Wondering what all of that camera lingo means? While you shop for a new camera, use this glossary to help decode the world of digital imaging.

DIGITAL IMAGING



aperture—An iris-like diaphragm opening that can expand and contract the lens to let you control the amount of light that passes through it, thus affecting the exposure. The term “f-stop” can be used interchangeably with aperture.

burst mode—A camera mode that lets you capture several shots consecutively by pressing the shutter button only once.

CCD—A charge-coupled device is a type of image sensor. It converts light into energy that can be stored as digital data on your camera.

depth of field—The area that is in focus in front of and beyond the subject of your photo.

digital zoom—Magnifies an image digitally by cropping it and filling in the rest with interpolated pixels, thus degrading the quality. Even if the numbers are impressive, never choose a camera based on digital zoom.

f-stop—See aperture. Smaller f-stop numbers mean a wider lens opening; larger f-stop numbers mean a narrower lens opening.

ISO—For digital cameras, the ISO setting

measures the sensitivity to light (similar to how it does with film). Digital camera ISO settings, such as 200, 400, and up, should capture photos as if you were using film with such a speed. Lower ISO settings mean you need more light and vice versa.

LCD—The screen on the back of the camera that lets you see a live-action view of your subject or your photo after you’ve taken it.

lens—The apparatus on the front of the camera that gathers and directs light toward the image sensor. In a digital camera, the lens likely has both an optical and digital zoom.

megapixel—Approximately 1 million pixels. The higher the megapixel count, the higher the resolution and the more you can crop, which means you can create larger prints with better quality.

memory card—Because digital cameras have very little onboard memory, they need flash memory cards to store more than a dozen or so images. The type of memory card you need depends on the make and model of your camera. Some of the most popular memory cards are Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Compact Flash, and Sony Memory Sticks. In gen-

eral, memory cards are quite small.

noise—The small statistical variations among pixels that lead to (usually) minor distortions of color in a photo.

optical zoom—The camera’s mechanical ability to move its lenses to magnify your subject. With optical zoom, the higher the number (such as 5X or 10X), the better. When choosing a camera, always consider the optical zoom, not the digital zoom. Digital zoom artificially adds pixels.

resolution—The number of pixels in an image. The higher the resolution, the more detail and quality in a photo. Resolution is expressed horizontally by vertically (such as 2,272 x 1,704).

shutter speed—The length of time a camera’s shutter is open to let light through the lens and hit the sensor, which records the image. This is expressed in fractions of a second. For instance, a shutter speed of 1/250 means that the shutter is open for 1/250th of a second.

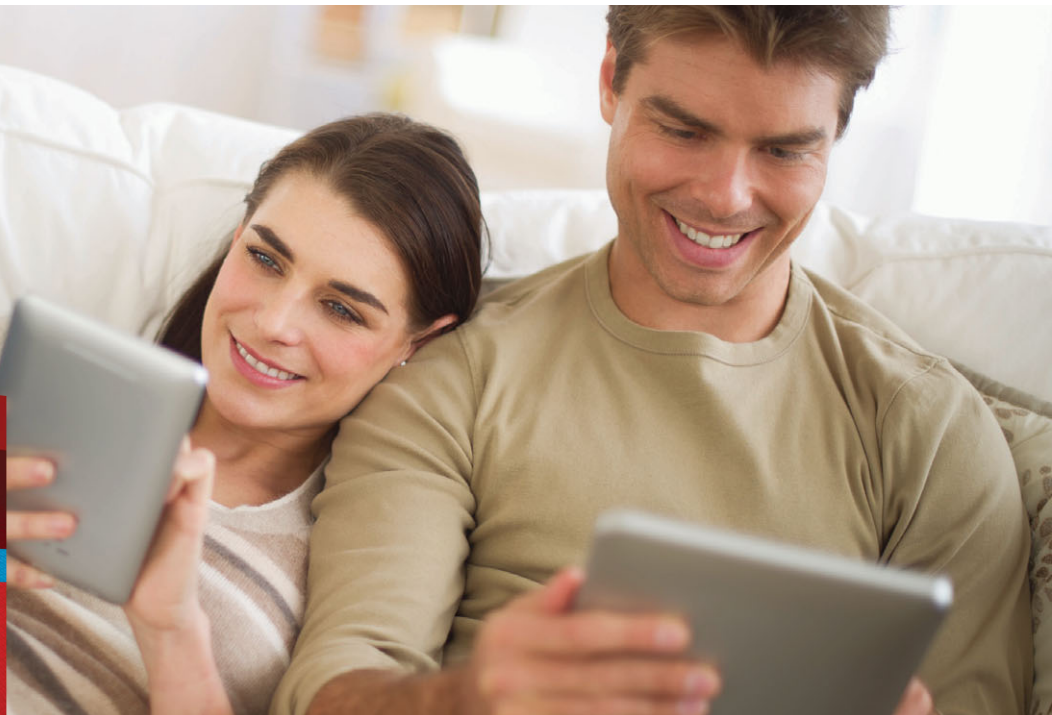
white balance—Cameras adjust colors based on the way white objects look under the current lighting, leading to more lifelike colors. White balance can usually be manually adjusted, too.



Protect Your Digital Life To The Max

The Internet changes, and unfortunately, so do online threats. Today's Internet security software has to take your smartphone and tablet into account, not to mention social networking. Trend Micro (www.trendmicro.com) strives to keep your family's digital life safe.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security 2012 | SKU: 3140335

Security For All Of Your Devices

Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security not only protects up to three Windows PCs, but also your Mac and your mobile devices, too. It runs on Android, iOS, and other platforms. What's more, it requires only half the system resources of competing security apps.

A Titanium Shield For Your Family

Today's threats often come in the form of hyperlinks posted on Facebook, Twitter, and other sites. Titanium Maximum Security warns your family against clicking bad links, including those in email and IMs. And its parental controls let you block inappropriate content and limit kids' Internet time.

Maximum Data Security Tools

Titanium Maximum Security's SafeSync gives you 10GB of secure, automatic, online backup you can share with mobile devices. The Trend Micro Vault is a secret folder you can lock remotely. And Titanium's data theft prevention feature keeps your credit card info and other sensitive data private.

Proactive, Cloud- Based Protection

The Trend Micro Smart Protection Network stops:

- Botnets
- Rootkits
- Fake antivirus programs
- Image spam
- Changes to your apps

The NETGEAR N900 Router Hits Top Speeds

No Compromise

Your router is the link between your Internet connection and all the smart devices in your house. The key to happiness is a router that's fast enough for HD video streaming and gaming—even over Wi-Fi—and stocked with features that are useful.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



NETGEAR N900 Wireless Dual Band Gigabit Router | SKU: 3219043

High Speed, Long Range

The N900 from NETGEAR (www.netgear.com) pegs the speedometer on not one wireless band, but two. It supports up to 450Mbps transfer speeds concurrently for both 2.4GHz and 5GHz Wi-Fi adapters, so you can add multiple 802.11 a/b/g/n devices without hurting performance. The N900 also features a boosted wireless range, so you can get a better signal even in a large house. And yet, for all this power, the N900 has green features to conserve energy and save you money.

Features You'll Use

NETGEAR's ReadySHARE ports let you plug in a USB printer and a hard drive so your whole family can access them wirelessly. With a USB hard drive on your N900, you can back up files from various devices, share them with your other gadgets, and stream media files to your connected TV, tablet, and other DLNA devices. The N900 even lets you offer guests a secure Wi-Fi connection without giving them access to your home network.

Easy To Setup & Manage

The NETGEAR genie (bit.ly/zXPCRS) helps you get your N900 up and running with easy, step-by-step software. It's also available to you on command anytime you need to manage your network. No more frustrations with a lost Internet connection or turning your router off and on—simply click it and fix it from a laptop or mobile app. NETGEAR genie gives you a simple picture of your entire network, including any devices that are affecting its performance.

Power & Beauty Ultrabooks



No longer do you have to compromise on speed when you buy a sleek, thin laptop. Ultrabooks come with the power of Intel 2nd Generation Core processors (www.intel.com), and yet they're less than 1-inch thin.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

Samsung Series 5 NP530U4B-A01US
with Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 processor
SKU: 4700116



Acer Aspire S3 Ultrabook
with Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 processor
SKU: 4171689



Toshiba Portégé Z835-P330 Ultrabook
with Intel 2nd Gen Core i3 processor
SKU: 3868228



Asus Zenbook UX31-RSL8
with Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 processor
SKU: 3757001



Performance

Ultrabooks set a new standard for speed in the thin, highly mobile PC category. Never before has there been processing power of this magnitude in such a sleek package. Everyone in your family can experience the performance of an Intel 2nd Generation Core i3, i5 or i7 processor (see page 50).

Besides great multitasking power, Ultrabooks provide you with impressive visual punch. Intel Insider technology supports 1080p Full HD movie downloads from an online service such as Best Buy CinemaNow (www.cinemanow.com; see page 50). Many Ultrabooks also have HDMI outputs so you can watch on your HDTV.

Style & Design

Ultrabooks prove that beauty and strength can indeed coexist. They're less than 1-inch thin, so you're guaranteed to have a low-profile laptop you'll be proud to show off.

Mobility is crucial to the Ultrabook experience, so their portability is enhanced with just-right screen dimensions. You'll get a bigger display than most tablets offer, which means increased productivity and more compelling entertainment options on your PC.

What's more, despite their trim profiles and high-caliber performance, Ultrabooks offer a long battery life.

Responsiveness

Many Ultrabooks also break new ground in responsiveness. When you tap a key to wake your laptop or double-click an icon to launch an application, you don't want to be left waiting for something to happen.

SSDs (solid-state drives) can be key to Ultrabooks' responsiveness. These hyper-speed storage modules don't have the latency of traditional hard disk drives, and so they can make bootups and app launches much, much quicker. SSDs also let you wake your Ultrabook from a deep sleep in a flash. This means a quick return to where you left off, and a smooth, seamless experience.

Touchscreen PCs With 2nd Gen Core Mojo



All-In-Ones

POWERED BY INTEL

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

An all-in-one computer offers many conveniences, such as a space-saving design, large touchscreen interface, and Wi-Fi connectivity. However, add a 2nd Gen Intel Core processor (www.intel.com) to the mix, and you have a system with fast and powerful performance. You'll get multi-tasking prowess, high-quality visuals, and customizable options with an Intel-based all-in-one—several models stand ready to handle your productivity and entertainment needs. Here's a look at the advantages these systems have to offer.



Model	Toshiba DX735-D3302	Dell Inspiron IO2320-4444BK	Lenovo IdeaCentre 77452SU	Asus ET2410-05	Gateway ZX6971-UB10P
SKU	4672992	4634781	4603008	4602664	4388052
Processor	Intel Core i7-2670QM	Intel Core i5-2400S	Intel Core i3-2120	Intel Core i3-2120	Pentium G630
Screen Size	23 inches	23 inches	23 inches	23 inches	23 inches
Memory	6GB	6GB	4GB	4GB	4GB
Hard Drive	1TB	1TB	1TB	750GB	500GB

Intel has equipped high-performance all-in-one PCs with its Core processors to keep up with the demands of today's users. Benefits made possible by these processors include:

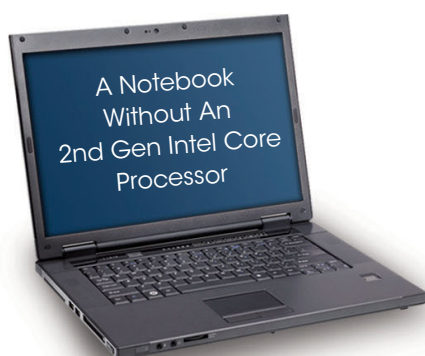
- **Built-in visual technologies** such as Quick Sync, Clear Video HD, and Intel HD Graphics for true-to-life onscreen images
- High-quality and resource-demanding media, such as **1080p HD video and fast-action game or movie scenes**, are no problem
- Access to the **Intel AppUp center**, which allows you to modify your all-in-one with apps to fit your specific needs—or simply have fun with touchscreen games such as "Angry Birds"

2nd Gen Intel Core Processors



Get More With Core

Laptops with 2nd Generation Intel Core processors (www.intel.com) give you more than features such as 4- and 8-way processing, Turbo Boost, and power-saving technology. They often have additional features that let you do more than ever. (Ask a sales associate for details.)



Get more built-in value that you can't get at other retailers with an 2nd Gen Intel Core PC at Best Buy.



2nd Gen Intel Core processors don't just enhance your PC. Now, with new Intel connecting apps, available at the AppUp center (www.bestbuy.com/appup), it's easy to make your PC and your other devices work together.



The Intel Pair & Share app makes it a cinch to share photos among mobile devices, PCs, and more. For instance, you can share your iPhone's pictures with friends who use Android phones or tablets. The app also lets you display images on a TV using Intel WiDi technology.



Meanwhile, the Intel TelePort Extender app lets you use your Core laptop's keyboard to type text messages, so you no longer have to "thumb it" on your Android smartphone's keys and small screen. Your computer will also show you who's calling your phone(s), let you forward calls to voicemail, and give you access to your phones' contact lists.



Intel Wireless Display helps you to enjoy your personal and online video on the big screen by wirelessly connecting a compatible laptop to your HDTV.

Ultrabooks with WiDi give you the power to send HD video and audio to your HDTV without a cable in between (adapter sold separately).

Intel Insider technology allows you to

unlock the 1080p Full HD version of movies you download through Best Buy CinemaNow (www.cinemanow.com).



Using your Core laptop's Intel Insider feature and Intel HD Graphics, you're ready to revel in high-definition entertainment. And depending on your Ultrabook's features, you can send that 1080p blockbuster to your HDTV over Intel Wireless Display or an HDMI cable.

Enjoy More Home Theater Entertainment

Free Your PC Media

Many of us store music, videos, and photos on our computers, but when you want to enjoy your media a PC doesn't always do it justice. Here's how you can access the content on your computer using your home theater system for a better entertainment experience.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

Streaming movies, photos, and other high-quality content from the Web demands a powerful Wireless N router. Turn to page [47](#) to learn about the Netgear N900.



Netgear N900 Wireless Dual Band Gigabit Router | SKU: 3219043

Streaming Boxes

One of the easiest ways to bring PC content to a home theater is with a streaming home theater device, which can tap into your home network using a Wi-Fi or Ethernet connection to communicate with any network-connected computer. Once your computer media is retrieved, the box sends the content via an HDMI cable to your home theater system. Additionally, some streaming boxes can access a variety of Web streaming services, such as Netflix, YouTube, or Pandora.

Game Consoles

Using your home network, a game console can also stream PC media to your entertainment center. Once it's connected to your home network and home theater, you only need to adjust your game console's settings so it can find and play back your favorite media. Note that most game consoles also offer disc drives, USB ports, and memory card slots, so you can also copy your content to computer media and then insert it into the game console for playback.

TV On The Go

A variety of products let you access media stored on your computer when you're away from home. For example, if you have a Windows 7-based laptop and home PC, you can use the OS's Remote Media Streaming feature to enjoy multimedia while you're on the go. Once you set up Remote Media Streaming on both computers, simply leave your home PC turned on and then connect your laptop to the Web to start streaming.

Create A Personal Wi-Fi Network With A Mobile Hotspot

Wi-Fi access isn't yet a universal commodity, but a mobile hotspot extends Internet accessibility beyond the nearest wireless network. When you tether your mobile devices to a personal hotspot, it's easy to stay connected wherever you go.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



Samsung 4G LTE Mobile Hotspot
SKU: 2035347

Harness Mobile Broadband

A mobile hotspot provides a small wireless LAN via cellular signals such as 3G and 4G (data plan required). In essence, you're connecting to high-speed mobile broadband converted into portable Wi-Fi. So, instead of searching for the closest public hotspot, you can connect to the Web through your own personal hotspot.

Connect Mobile Devices

When you're on a road trip and every person in the car needs to connect to the Web, you can all hop on-line at the same time if your mobile hotspot supports multiple Wi-Fi-enabled devices. Some models connect only a handful of mobile gadgets, whereas others may support more than 15 tablets, eReaders, or laptops.

Store Data On The Device

Select mobile hotspots with built-in media card slots and internal storage can store your photos and files—all you need to do is transfer your data to the device via memory card. This feature will come in handy when you're working on a presentation away from the office and you want to back it up quickly.

Recharge On The Go

Because many mobile hotspots run on rechargeable batteries, you can power up wherever you go so you're never without a connection to the Web. You'll most likely appreciate this capability when you're on a long car trip and you can recharge your hotspot at night in your hotel room.

Space Savers With Smart Features

All-In-One PC Benefits

Desktop computers can take up a lot of space. Besides the system itself, you'll need room on your desk for a monitor, keyboard, and mouse. All-in-one computers, however, offer the same functionality but are designed to save space.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



Lenovo Ideacentre All-In-One Computer
SKU: 4602973



Space Saving

An all-in-one's various components are built into a case that looks like a PC monitor. Connectivity and peripheral features, such as Wi-Fi, USB ports, and a disc drive, are also built into the body of an all-in-one. Because they're versatile, all-in-ones are ideal for a college student's dorm room, a kitchen, a workshop, or a child's room.

Touchscreen

If your all-in-one has a touchscreen, you'll be able to control it by using intuitive finger gestures. For example, you might be able to zoom in on a photo by spreading two fingers, or zoom out of a map by pinching your fingers together. A touchscreen may even let you ditch your mouse and keyboard to regain desk space.

Video & Audio

Many all-in-one computers have screens that are 20 inches or larger (measured diagonally), making them great for online entertainment such as streaming video or Web site content. Built-in speakers can provide quality audio for an enjoyable movie or music entertainment experience.

Cut Some Cables

All-in-one PCs typically include built-in Wi-Fi, so you won't need to run an Ethernet cable to the system for Internet access. Without being tied down to a wired network, you can place a compact all-in-one in a number of different locations. You'll also have fewer cables to disconnect or reconnect when you move the system.

AMD-Powered Toshiba Satellite® L735D-S3102 **AMD**

Computing For Kids

The AMD APU-based (www.amd.com) Toshiba Satellite® L735D-S3102 is designed to feed a child's curiosity, but it's also parent-approved. Exclusively at Best Buy, this laptop lets kids cut loose while also giving mom and dad control over what they see, do, and enjoy.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



AMD APU-Powered Toshiba Satellite® L735D-S3102 Laptop | SKU: 4792346



Power Up With AMD

Using a single, power-efficient chip called the AMD E-Series APU (accelerated processing unit), this laptop combines the speed of a multi-core processor and visual clarity of accelerated graphics. This lets users enjoy high-quality video without compromised performance. And if your kids happen to play with the laptop all day, you don't have to worry about its battery: AMD All Day™ Power extends battery life for on-the-go use.*

Go Kid-Friendly

The Satellite® L735D is engineered to tag along with a kid anywhere. Because it's outfitted with a small, wipeable keyboard, sticky-fingered little hands can freely explore and play. Any child can enjoy the pre-loaded, kid-centered entertainment on the L735D, such as LEGO® Harry Potter™ video game software. What's more, parents can feel confident about letting their kids compute alone due to the child safety software and built-in parental controls that keep them safe on the Web.

Watch Smart HD

From children to adults, many use computers to watch HD movies, stream Web videos, and listen to music, so a system that can flawlessly multitask is essential. The AMD APU can handle such demanding activities, and it will even enhance the laptop's on-screen image quality with AMD Perfect Picture HD. And while the Satellite® L735D can handle tough tasks with ease, it's also designed to stay cool under pressure with AMD Cool To The Touch.

*AMD defines "all day" battery life as 8+ hours of continuous use when measured with the Windows idle test.

FirstGlimpse

Wireless Ways To The Web

Internet For Tablets

Tablets can go online wirelessly to let you stream video, use social networks, and more. Different models connect in different ways, however. Tablets use either Wi-Fi or a mobile broadband technology (such as 3G or 4G), and often both, to access the wireless Web.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

To build the fastest and most reliable Wi-Fi network at home, you need a Wireless N router such as the Netgear N900 Wireless-N Dual Band Router on page [47](#).



Netgear N900 Wireless Dual Band Gigabit Router | SKU: 3219043

Wi-Fi: Hot Speed Near Hotspots

A Wi-Fi network is usually linked to an Internet connection, such as the service you pay for at home or a connection sponsored by an organization such as a coffee shop or public library. A Wi-Fi coverage area is called a hotspot. It will give your tablet relatively fast wireless Internet access—fast enough to stream HD video, in many cases. That said, a hotspot's coverage only extends for a few hundred feet.

If your tablet can use both Wi-Fi and a mobile broadband technology (3G or 4G), it's a good idea to set it to use Wi-Fi near hotspots you trust, and automatically switch to 3G or 4G when you're out of Wi-Fi range.

Mobile Broadband: Wide Coverage

Cell phone networks provide data coverage over a wide area. Recent technologies, such as 3G and 4G, are called mobile broadband. These wireless protocols let your tablet access the Internet with modest to moderate speed wherever there is coverage: in the woods, in your car, or out on a lake. In order to use mobile broadband, however, you'll need to sign up for a data plan with a carrier that supports your tablet.

3G is commonly available, and suitable for basic Web use. 4G technologies, such as LTE and WiMAX, are not as widely deployed. That said, they're much faster than 3G, and better able to stream video to your tablet.

Mobile Entertainment On Tablets & Laptops Wherever You Are

It's hard to be bored with a tablet or laptop computer as a travel companion. With colorful screens, A/V apps, and wireless connectivity—such as Wi-Fi, 3G, and 4G technologies such as WiMAX—these portable powerhouses let the good times roll.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



To enjoy your tablet or laptop's media anytime or anywhere, you should tote along a pair of headphones. Find the right ones for your needs on page **68**.

See
p. 71

JVC Riptidz HA-FX8 Headphones
SKU: 3316045

Tablets Are For Portable Entertainment

Easy to use and easy to carry, a tablet has become the go-to device for streaming video, touchscreen games, and more. With a wireless Internet connection and a few good apps, you're set to enjoy a world of entertainment wherever you happen to be. Pair up your tablet with a set of headphones, and you'll be able to listen to your MP3s, game sounds, and movie audio wherever you like—even in a quiet library. If you'd rather share your tunes, such as when you're hosting a party, some tablets even let you stream audio to compatible speakers. And just as a tablet will let you read ebooks (and listen to audio books), some eReaders also let you do tablet-like things, such as surfing the Web and watching video.

Laptops Let You Work As Well As Play

A keyboard and a powerful processor make a laptop a balanced choice for productivity as well as entertainment. As an example of the latter, models with optical drives may let you play Blu-ray and DVD movie discs, in addition to online streaming videos. Some laptops even come with wireless technologies such as Intel Wireless Display (see page 50), so you can share HD video on the bigger screen of an HDTV. Laptops also let you play more sophisticated games than typical tablet fare. They may not be as portable as their tablet cousins, but laptops often have more storage space for your songs, videos, and photos. As with a tablet, a set of headphones will give you more freedom to enjoy your media virtually anywhere.

Enhance, Connect, & Protect

Tablet Accessories

The ingenuity of tablets speaks for itself, but that doesn't mean you can't augment this computing device with a number of extras. Below we highlight the benefits of several accessories that will protect a tablet and emphasize its connectivity capabilities.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



Not all tablet peripherals connect with a dock. In fact, a dockless design allows some devices to be ultra-portable, such as the Withings Blood Pressure Monitor.

Withings Blood Pressure Monitor
SKU: 2954457

Give Your Tablet Basic Protection

To ensure that scratches, fingerprint smudges, and glare don't take away from your tablet experience, you need to add a paper-thin but durable screen protector to your tablet. Most screen protectors resist scratches and smudges, and/or reduce glare. You'll also find that some offer a lifetime replacement policy.

Boost Portability & Productivity

A tablet case or cover keeps your device safe when you're on the move. They vary in terms of features—some are shock absorbent, stylish, etc. To use a tablet without touching its screen, you can opt for a keyboard dock. This, as well as some cases and covers, can prop up your tablet for convenient hands-free viewing.

Charge & Sync With Ease

With the right connection, you can charge your tablet on the go or enjoy tablet content on another display. For instance, a dual-USB car charger can refresh your tablet's and another USB device's battery simultaneously. Or, if your tablet has an HDMI port, you can connect it to an HDTV to view photos and video.

Add More Capabilities

There's a rapidly growing category of app-enabled accessories you can use with your tablet. Examples include wireless scales, an arcade game, and a portable piano. When you pair your tablet with app-powered gadgets, you can boost its functionality further and enjoy a variety of tablet-oriented activities.

Essential Things To Know

Advanced Processors

A CPU (central processing unit) is often called the “brain” of a computer because it controls the PC’s components. Today’s CPUs have advanced beyond basic functions to meet new demands, such as HD video, media streaming, faster multitasking, and more.

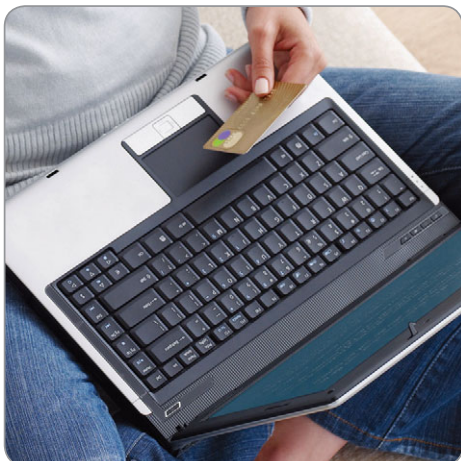
COMPUTERS & TABLETS



**AMD APU-Powered Toshiba Satellite
L735D-S3102 Laptop**
SKU: 4792346



**Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 Processor-Based
Samsung Series 5 NP530U4B-A01US**
SKU: 4700116



What is an Accelerated Processing Unit?

An APU (accelerated processing unit) is a single chipset that combines advanced processor technology (a multi-core CPU) and accelerated graphics (a discrete GPU). A computer that runs on an APU can support multitasking, play HD content without dropped video frames, and perform with an extended battery life. You can turn to page 54 to read more about the AMD APU and its benefits.

What is 4-way processing?

Intel developed 4-way processing technology, and it optimizes Intel 2nd Gen Core i3 and i5 chips so they can better manage computing tasks. For even more computing power, Intel also developed 8-way processing for Intel 2nd Gen Core i7 processors to handle demanding workloads that require high-performance multitasking.

What is virtualization support?

Some AMD- and Intel CPU-based systems can accelerate computing tasks, such as running one OS within another OS as an application, without directly using the system’s hardware.

What are the benefits of an advanced processor?

With an advanced processor, you’ll experience a heightened computing experience. For example, the Intel 2nd Gen Core processors are packed with many visual technologies including Intel HD Graphics for stunning graphics and Quick Sync Technology to reduce the time it takes to edit, burn, and share video creations. Plus, Intel Insider is included. This lets you download and watch 1080p Full HD movies and shows from an online service such as Best Buy CinemaNow (www.cinemanow.com).









Can an APU improve HD graphics?

Yes, AMD VISION Technology can deliver vivid and smooth graphics when a PC is powered by an AMD APU.

Take Your Work & Media With You On A Laptop

A laptop computer is a pretty big purchase for most people, and there are many options to choose from. To help you find a model with the features and specs you need, here's a comparison of what the latest laptops have to offer.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

		Operating system	Processor	Hard drive size; RAM	Graphics card	Dimensions & Weight	Optical drives; Media card reader
	What It Means	The software (usually Windows or Mac OS X) that controls your computer	Chip that controls the computer (typically, a bigger number is better)	How much data the computer can hold; Memory that's read and written to	Controls the quality of your video and images	Height x width x depth; How much the laptop weighs; Screen size	Drives that can read and write discs; Slots that read media cards without a separate peripheral
	Acer Aspire S3-951-6828 SKU: 4171689 See p. 48	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.6GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 2.3GHz	240GB SSD; 4GB	Intel HD	0.7x12.7x8.6 inches; 2.93 pounds; 13.3 inches	N/A; Yes
	Lenovo IdeaPad V570-1066AWU SKU: 4676403	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.5GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 3.1GHz	500GB; 6GB	Intel HD	1.27x14.9x9.9 inches; 5.3 pounds; 15.6 inches	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	HP Pavilion dm4-3055dx SKU: 4810889	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.4GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 3.0GHz	640GB; 8GB	Intel HD	1.3x13.3x8.9 inches; 4.3 pounds; 14 inches	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Samsung NP530U4B-A01US SKU: 4700116 See p. 48	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.6GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 2.3GHz	500GB; 4GB	Intel HD	0.8x13.1x9 inches; 5.1 pounds; 14 inches	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Toshiba Satellite L735D-S3102 SKU: 4792346 See p. 54	Windows 7 Home Premium	AMD Dual-Core E-300 Accelerated Processor	320GB; 4GB	AMD Radeon HD 6310	1.2/1.5x12.9x8.7 inches; 4.6 pounds; 13.3 inches	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Sony Vaio VPCSC41FM/S SKU: 4701045	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.5GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 3.1GHz	750GB + 4GB SLC Hybrid; 8GB	AMD Radeon HD 6470M	0.95x13x8.84 inches; 3.8 pounds; 13.3 inches	Blu-ray Disc BD-ROM/ DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes
	Asus Zenbook UX31-RSL8 SKU: 3757001 See p. 48	Windows 7 Home Premium	1.7GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 2.7GHz	128GB SSD; 4GB	UMA	0.7x12.6x8.8 inches; 2.9 pounds; 13.3 inches	N/A; Yes
	Dell XPS X14Z-2310SLV SKU: 4590261	Windows 7 Home Premium	2.5GHz Intel 2nd Gen Core i5 with Turbo Boost up to 3.1GHz	750GB; 8GB	Intel HD	0.9x13.2x9.2 inches; 4.4 pounds; 14 inches	DVD±RW/CD-RW; Yes

Always Keep Content On Hand With A Tablet Or eReader

By pairing your laptop with a tablet, you'll be able to simplify your computing tasks. eReaders, on the other hand, give you instant access to the latest books and more. To find a tablet or eReader that best fits your digital lifestyle, here's a comparison of the latest models.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

		Platform	Internal storage	Connectivity	Battery life	Dimensions; Weight	Ports; Media card reader	
What It Means		The software that controls a tablet	How much data the tablet can hold	How the tablet can connect to the Web (Wi-Fi, 3G, or both)	How long the battery may last when the tablet is being used	Height x width x depth; Screen size; How much the tablet weighs	Sockets that give a tablet access to peripherals; Slots that can read media cards	
Tablets		Sony Tablet S SKUs: 3478046; 3478037	Android 3.2 Honeycomb (4.0 up-gradeable)	16GB; 32GB	Wi-Fi	8 hours	9.5x6.8x0.3 inches; 9.4 inches; 21 ounces	1 headphone, 1 mini USB; 1 SD
		Asus Eee Pad Transformer TF101-A1 SKU: 2475916	Android 3.2 Honeycomb	16GB	Wi-Fi	9.5 hours	10.7x7.1x0.5 inches; 10.1 inches; 35.2 ounces	1 headphone/mic, 1 mni HDMI; 1 SD/SDHC/MMC
		Velocity Micro Cruz T410 SKU: 4272429	Android 2.3 Gingerbread	4GB	Wi-Fi	N/A	6.5x10x0.5 inches; 10 inches; 19.2 ounces	1 headphone, 1 USB; 1 microSD
		Toshiba Thrive SKU: 2769576	Android 3.2 Honeycomb	16GB	Wi-Fi	11 hours	7x10.7x0.6 inches; 10.1 inches; starts at 25.6 ounces depending on model	1 mini USB, 1 USB, 1 HDMI, 1 headphone; 1 SD/SDHC/SDXC
		Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 SKUs: 2817743; 2817582; 2775455; 2775261	Android 3.1 Honeycomb	16GB; 32GB	Wi-Fi	9 hours	6.9x10.1x0.3 inches; 10.1 inches; 19.9 ounces	1 headphone, 1 USB; No
eReaders		Amazon Kindle Fire SKU: 2506173	N/A	8GB	Wi-Fi	8 hours	7.5x4.7x0.5 inches; 7 inches; 14.6 ounces	1 mini USB, 1 headphone; No
		Sony Reader Wi-Fi SKU: 3072143	N/A	2GB	Wi-Fi	1 month	6.8x4.4x0.4 inches; 6 inches; 5.9 ounces	1 USB; 1 microSD
		Barnes & Noble NOOK Color SKU: 1517163	N/A	8GB	Wi-Fi	8 hours	8.1x5x0.5 inches; 7 inches; 15.8 ounces	1 mini USB, 1 headphone; 1 microSD

Get More Out Of Your PC

Software Listings

Computers can be used to create greeting cards, keep track of your finances, and more. But most of these functions aren't available straight out of the box. To fully harness your computer's potential, you'll need to buy software. Here are some options.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

Business & Home



Microsoft Office Home & Student 2010

SKU: 9894452

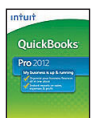
The Home and Student version of Microsoft Office 2010 has enhanced features for creating and managing documents. It includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote.



Individual Software ResumeMaker Professional 17 Deluxe

SKU: 3559426

It's easy to write a professional résumé quickly using ResumeMaker Professional. The software also includes advanced search tools.



Intuit QuickBooks Pro 2012

SKU: 3141088

Easily keep track of your company's finances with QuickBooks Pro 2012. You can view expense and income breakdowns, account balances, and more, so it's easy to know where your money is going.



Nuance Dragon NaturallySpeaking 11 Home

SKU: 1239999

Dictate emails, reports, and documents much faster than you can type by letting Dragon NaturallySpeaking do the typing for you. The software has an accuracy rate of up to 99%.



Creativity



Nova Development Family Tree Maker Deluxe

SKU: 3487393

Explore and preserve your family history with the software and a free three-month subscription to Ancestry.com.



Serif CraftArtist Platinum Edition

SKU: 2531179

Use your digital photos and CraftArtist Platinum Edition to create stunning projects that make perfect gifts for friends and family. Tools such as the photo editor, as well as digital scissors and brushes, let you personalize your projects.



HGTV Home & Landscape Platinum Suite Version 3

SKU: 1915073

Plan home improvements or build your dream home with HGTV Home & Landscape. Complete your 3D model in a matter of minutes and then enjoy a virtual walk around.



Nero 11 Multimedia Suite

SKU: 3893523

Nero 11 Multimedia Suite makes it easy to import video from nearly any source, add effects, and then burn the final result to BD, DVD, or CD.

Games



Batman: Arkham City

SKU: 2173083

Protect and serve Gotham as Batman by exploring the huge Arkham City prison. Using Batman's new gadgets, you can fight against the Caped Crusader's infamous enemies.



Star Wars: The Old Republic

SKU: 3031171

As a Jedi or Sith, you can follow the light or dark side of the Force and sojourn through galactic stories. Immerse yourself in lightsaber fights, ship steering, and multiplayer competition.



The Sims 3: Master Suite Stuff

SKU: 4602521

Now that your Sims have their own virtual lives, you can give them a luxurious home, complete with a spa bathtub, canopy-style bed, and classy furniture.

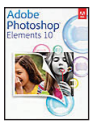


Nancy Drew: Alibi in Ashes

SKU: 2809265

Solve mysterious cases and uncover clues in River Heights Town Hall. You can play the roles of four different characters and use police forensics to catch criminals.

Media


Adobe Photoshop Elements 10

SKU: 3638178

Easily edit, share, and manage your photo collection, and get professional results using Adobe Photoshop Elements 10.


Corel PaintShop Pro X4 Ultimate Edition

SKU: 3496066

Corel PaintShop Photo Pro X4 lets you manage, edit, and share your digital photos. Make automatic fixes with the included advanced editing tools, including 75 new enhancements.


Roxio Creator 2012

SKU: 3303041

Use Roxio Creator 2012 to easily capture, enhance, and preserve your photos, videos, and audio projects. New features include portrait enhancing tools, Hollywood-style video effects, and video file conversion for mobile device viewing.


Pinnacle Studio HD Ultimate Collection 15

SKU: 2327105

Pinnacle Studio Ultimate HD Collection 15 comes with a full set of plug-ins and a chroma-key green screen for advanced effects, editing, and production.

Utilities


Kaspersky ONE Universal Security

SKU: 3630185

Kaspersky ONE Universal Security safeguards all your digital devices. It protects PCs, smart-phones, Android tablets, & Macs from Internet threats.


Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security 2012

SKU: 3140335

Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security 2012 protects up to three Windows PCs, your Mac, plus smartphones and tablets from online threats. It includes 10GB of SafeSync online backup.

See
p. 46


iolo System Mechanic

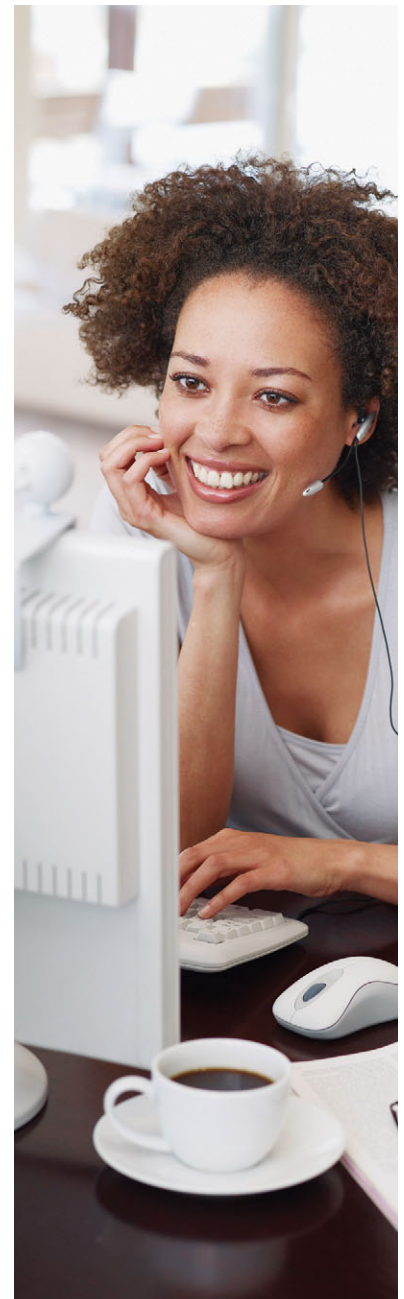
SKU: 8648591

With System Mechanic, you can find and fix errors and fragmentation on your PC, clean out clutter, and optimize your system for best performance.


123 Copy DVD

SKU: 3504876

This software rips your DVD collection and converts your video to file formats playable on the following devices and more: PC, Xbox 360, Playstation 3, PSP, iPod, iPad, Motorola Xoom.



Essential Accessories

Whether your desktop, laptop, or tablet is brand-new out of the box or has been a part of your life for a while, the right accessories can enhance your computing experience. To get the most out of your system, consider putting some of these products to use.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

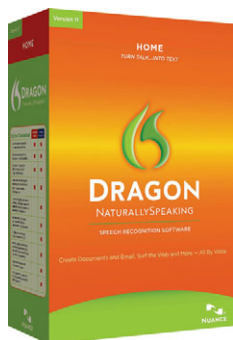
Nuance Dragon NaturallySpeaking 11 Home

SKU: 1239999

www.nuance.com



What Sets This Software Apart: Dragon NaturallySpeaking 11 Home offers a fast and convenient way to get things done on your computer. Instead of using a keyboard and mouse, you can simply speak commands, watch your PC obey, and multitask faster.



Perfect For: Anyone who wants to create documents, search the Web, compose emails, and more, simply by using their voice.

Rocketfish RF-NANOMSE2 Wireless Optical Mouse

SKU: 9942007

www.rocketfishproducts.com

A Wireless Mouse Is Perfect For: Pairing with your laptop at home or on the road. Many mice are available in ergonomic, wireless, programmable multi-button, and mobile designs. Special tracking technologies built into select models let you mouse on surfaces that standard mice can't, such as glass, granite, and carpet.

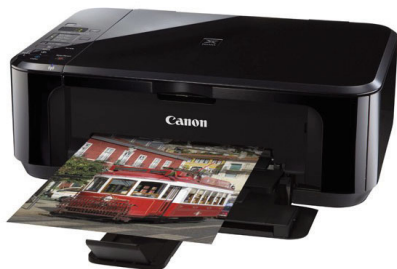


Canon MG3120 PIXMA All-In-One Printer

SKU: 4276222

www.canon.com

An All-In-On Printer Is Perfect For: Printing, scanning, and making copies in your home office. Some of the latest all-one-ones support wireless printing from tablets, smartphones, and MP3 players. Other models may feature creative filter effects and color tone correction to help you perfect your photos and documents.



Insignia 2.1 Computer Speaker System

SKU: 9402185

www.insigniaproducts.com

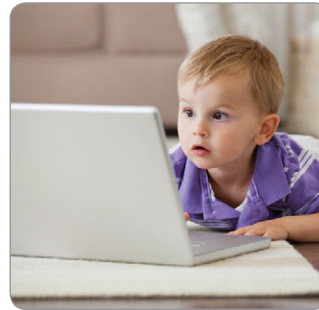
PC Speakers Are Perfect For: Enjoying a variety of multimedia. To hear the nuances of the music or movies you stream, you should invest in a powerful set of speakers. Some speakers can also pull double duty and be used with other portable devices, such as tablets and MP3 players.



Computing Glossary

Shopping for a computer can be intimidating, especially with all of the complex terminology. Here, we'll explain some common computer jargon.

COMPUTERS & TABLETS



Bluetooth—A short-range wireless standard that connects devices such as computers, printers, headsets, and digital cameras so they can be used together without being connected physically with a cord.

broadband—Network connections that transmit high-speed Internet access. Broadband speed varies depending on the provider. Cable companies offer speeds of around 8 to 11Mbps, whereas phone companies offer DSL, which supports speeds of 3 to 5Mbps.

Ethernet—A widely used LAN protocol in which computers and networks are physically linked with a cord.

firewall—Hardware or software that limits access by a network or another outside source to your computer; it also may limit your computer's access to the network. These security measures are designed to protect your computer from outsiders who'd like to exploit it in some way. By the same token, firewalls may prevent infected files on your computer from accessing the larger network and spreading the problem to other users.

HDMI (high-definition multimedia interface)—An output that some computers

offer to transmit uncompressed (and ultimately high-quality) audio and video to a compatible HD display, such as an HDTV.

all-in-one computer—A PC that encompasses every component in a single, towerless unit that looks like a monitor. Typically all-in-ones are thin, making them ideal for small spaces and wall mounting. They also use less energy than most desktop/monitor pairings. Many have built-in Wi-Fi capabilities, so you won't need to connect the system to an Ethernet cable for Internet access. Models with touchscreen control are also available.

mobile broadband—A communication technology, which is also called LTE, WiMAX, 3G, and 4G, that uses cell phone towers to connect devices to the Internet. Generally, you need a service contract, and it's only available in select areas.

operating system—The software, such as Windows Vista, Windows 7, or Mac OS X, that controls a computer and its peripherals and serves as the primary interface for users.

processor—Also known as a microprocessor or CPU, this integrated circuit controls the computer. Some CPUs feature two or four processors (called

dual- and quad-core processors) or more on a single die, speeding up the computer and its ability to multitask.

RAM (random-access memory)—A type of memory that's read from and written to by the CPU and hardware.

streaming—The act of transferring content from one device to another without copying it. For example, you can stream photos from a computer in the basement to a compatible HDTV in the living room.

tablet—Larger than a smartphone but smaller than a laptop, tablets are computing devices that use downloadable apps. Many have touchscreens that can be manipulated via touch or with a stylus.

3D-ready—This means a piece of hardware can play 3D content, but to do so it may require additional components such as 3D eyewear. In order to watch 3D content on a computer, certain hardware must be 3D-ready, such as a monitor and graphics card.

WLAN (wireless local-area network)—A setup that includes a wireless router and a number of Wi-Fi-enabled devices, such as notebooks and BD players, that communicate wirelessly to share files, media, etc.

Tune Into Your Mobile Audio With Headphones

Personal audio is about personal choice: your choice of music, your choice of style, and your choice of headphones. There's a ton of variety in the headphone category, however, so here's a quick primer to help you narrow down your options.

PORTABLE DEVICES



To find the best headphones for your needs, flip to the Headphones Showcase on page **68**.

See
p. 71



Klipsch Image In-Ear Headphones
SKU: 9422369

Choose A Style

Should you opt for earbuds, which plug into your ears and are easy to pocket? A single-ear phone headset? Or traditional, over-the-ear headphones? Whichever style you choose, head to your local electronics store to try on several pairs before you buy. Comfort and sound quality are in the ears of the beholder.

Cut The Cord?

Headphones with cables have the advantage of being less expensive than comparable wireless models. They're also easier on mobile gadget battery life, and usable with nearly any device. That said, if your mobile device supports a Bluetooth headset, you can skip the tangles and tugging of cabled life.

Microphones

If your phone and MP3 player are the same device, consider buying a headset with a built-in microphone. Depending on your device's capabilities, a microphone may automatically pause your music as you answer an incoming call, and then resume playing the track where you left off. Both cabled and wireless models come with mics.

Block Noise

Earbuds and many over-the-ear headphones passively isolate you from outside sound, but many also employ noise-canceling technology. This feature actively phases out ambient sounds so you can hear your music more clearly. Shop for headphones that will still play your audio even with noise cancelation turned off.

Outfit Your Vehicle With All The Best In Car Audio

If you're still driving down the street listening to the factory-installed audio system your car came with, you're missing out. Whether you're enjoying audiobooks, metal, classical music, or acoustical folk, your car audio experience can benefit from an upgrade in several areas.

PORTABLE DEVICES



JVC KD-R730BT In-Dash CD Receiver with Built-in Bluetooth
SKU: 4726909

Swap Speakers

Upgrading to aftermarket speakers will generally provide your auto with stronger, cleaner audio. Keep in mind that the maximum amount of wattage your stereo system will need is proportional to your vehicle's size and style, so consider how much power is necessary to project the sounds you want to hear. You may hear more dynamic audio through dedicated tweeters, woofers, and sub-woofers, as compared to factory speakers which don't always accurately reproduce highs and lows.

Check Out A New Deck

Although the proprietary features on an upgraded stereo deck may vary, models can include any of the following: a DVD player, memory card slot, HD radio, satellite radio, and built-in GPS functionality. Your iPod can become another audio source when it's connected to a stereo deck auxiliary input via 3.5mm cable. To enable safe, hands-free calling while you keep all 10 fingers on the wheel, some decks integrate Bluetooth compatibility for pairing with a smartphone.

Amplify It

An amplifier supplies your car audio components with efficient power so the stereo system can perform consistently over a long lifespan. Because only certain types of amplifiers support specific speaker combinations, determine whether your system would benefit from the addition of a mono (single speaker), two-channel (two speakers and subwoofer), or multi-channel (varied speaker configurations) amplifier.

Strive For A Better You With Tech Built For Your MIND & BODY

PORTABLE DEVICES



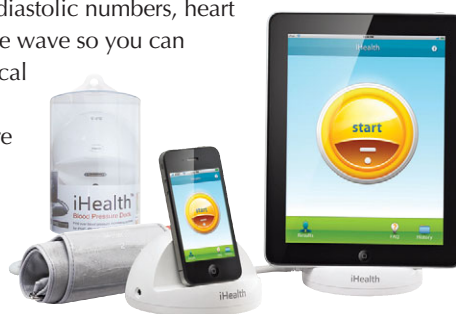
Are you looking to become a healthier you? Consider the many connected health devices at your CE retailer. They'll help you stay committed, track your activities, manage your progress, and more.

iHealth Blood Pressure Dock

SKU: 2577977
www.ihealth99.com

iHealth™

When you pair your iOS device with the iHealth Blood Pressure Dock and its free app, you can test your blood pressure and track, graph, and share your results with others. You can generate easy-to-read graphics from data such as your systolic/diastolic numbers, heart rate, and pulse wave so you can keep a historical record. The Blood Pressure Dock also doubles as a charging station for your device.



Zeo Mobile Sleep Manager

SKU: 2869936
www.myzeo.com



This comprehensive system can help you track the quality of your sleep by measuring your restorative REM and Deep sleep. The Zeo Mobile Sleep Manager features an adjustable SoftWave sensor headband and works with your Bluetooth-enabled smartphone. To enhance your wellness, you can take control and manage your sleep using Zeo's free coaching program and online tools.



MOTOACTV GPS Fitness Tracker & Smart MP3 Player

SKU: 3754696
motoactv.com



MOTOACTV is the world's first GPS Fitness Tracker and Smart MP3 Player, all in one. It tracks your running, walking, and biking data—indoors and out—so you can monitor your time, distance, speed, elevation, calories burned, and more. The smart MP3 player can store hours of your music and “learns” what songs motivate you the most to optimize your workout.



Make The Most Of Your Audio Enjoyment

Headphone

SHOWCASE

Headphones are a necessary accessory for many of today's devices, including laptops, smartphones, tablets, and MP3 players. To find a pair that best fits your lifestyle, consider the situations in which you want to use them. For instance, a frequent traveler will appreciate a noise-canceling pair for loud airports and airplanes while a runner may find sweat-proof sports buds that fit snug in their ears the best option.



STUDIO

AKG by Harman Q 701 Quincy Jones Premium Headphones

AKG
by HARMAN

SKU: 2882833
us.akg.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: The Q 701 employs a patented Varimotion multilayer diaphragm, and AKG neodymium-magnet system for high-frequency signal tracking and a distortion-free bass response. With balanced stereo separation and precision 3D imaging, music sounds exactly as an artist intended.

Perfect For: Audiophiles who want to experience the true sound that producers and artists are striving for on records.



IN-LINE MICROPHONE

Sony EX Earbuds with Smartphone Remote

SONY

SKU: 4303757
www.sony.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: Compatible with Android OS, iPhone, and Blackberry handsets, these sound-isolating silicone earbuds include an in-line remote-microphone combination with volume and music control. You'll hear deep bass tones and clear treble notes thanks to the small, but powerful 9mm drive units.

Perfect For: Road warriors, business travelers, or anyone who makes calls on-the-go.



STUDIO

Logitech Ultimate Ears 700 Noise-Isolating Earphones

Logitech

SKU: 3638053
www.logitech.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: These earbuds harbor not one, but two custom-tuned armature speakers for each ear. The result is incredible bass, mids, and highs uncommon to earbuds. Five sets of silicone cushions and two foam tips are included.

Perfect For: Audiophiles who crave high-quality sound from an earbud, along with customizable comfort.



STUDIO

CAD Audio MH110 Studio Monitor Headphones

SKU: 3652168
cadaudio.com



What Sets These Headphones Apart: A circumaural, precision-built monitor headphone, the MH110 is equipped with 50mm neodymium drivers offering extended frequency response as well as detail and clarity. The easy-fold, comfort-fit headband design it allows for convenient storage and hours of comfortable listening.

Perfect For: Professional musicians who want an essential tool for enhanced studio performance.



STUDIO

Shure SRH840 Professional Monitoring Headphones

SKU: 2882209
www.shure.com/americas



What Sets These Headphones Apart: Plush enough to rest comfortably on your ears for hours, the SRH840 features a padded, ergonomic headband and closed-back ear cup pads for long listening periods. Noise-canceling technology also lets you hear robust bass and clear highs at a safe volume.

Perfect For: Audio engineers, musicians, producers, and anyone who spends hours listening to tracks in a recording studio.



WIRELESS

Rocketfish Rocketboost Wireless Stereo Headphones

SKU: 9985202
www.bestbuy.com



What Sets These Headphones Apart: Rocketboost wireless technology makes it easy to stream HD-quality audio to these comfortable, full-range headphones. A 115-foot range and 10-hour battery life ensure all-day audio that stays with you throughout your home and yard.

Perfect For: Home users who want to move about and enjoy uninterrupted audio playback.



NOISE CANCELING

Able Planet Extreme Foldable Headphones

SKU: 3568619
www.ableplanet.com



What Sets These Headphones Apart: These fashionable headphones come in five colors—red, black, white, green and pink. Built-in noise-cancellation technology and in-line volume control let you perfect your listening experience. Pack them up by folding the pair into a handheld size and stowing them in a sturdy traveling pouch.

Perfect For: Travelers, game-players, Skypers and music lovers that need a comfortable yet compact set of headphones.



Make The Most Of Your Audio Enjoyment

Headphone

SHOWCASE

IN-LINE MICROPHONE

Skullcandy 2011 50/50

SKU: 1275666
www.skullcandy.com



What Sets These Headphones Apart: This stylish pair is half-mic and half-bud in-ear headphones, so you can answer phone calls, record voice memos, and easily control audio. And with an 11mm power driver, you'll hear the lowest bass tones in your favorite songs.

Perfect For: Music lovers who want buds that deliver high-quality audio and include cord-embedded controls.



IN-LINE MICROPHONE

Monster Gratitude In-Ear Headphones



SKU: 4597167
www.monstercable.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: These headphones are sonically tuned to recreate the dynamic range of a great, live musical performance. The driver reproduces complex music with great clarity and detail. And with an in-line mic and controls, you can easily control your volume, music tracks, and calls within reach.

Perfect For: Someone who wants a pair of headphones that can reproduce audio like a great musical instrument, but also offers portability and style.



MP3 PLAYER CONTROL

Sony EX Earbuds With iPod Remote

SKU: 9495263
www.sony.com



What Sets These Headphones Apart: An ideal companion for your iPhone or iPod, the EX Earbuds have an in-line remote control that lets you adjust your volume and change songs without touching your device. Included are three ear cushion sizes and a cord adjuster so you can customize your listening experience.

Perfect For: Any iPod or iPhone user who would rather control their volume and music selection without disturbing the device.



MP3 PLAYER CONTROL & SPORTS

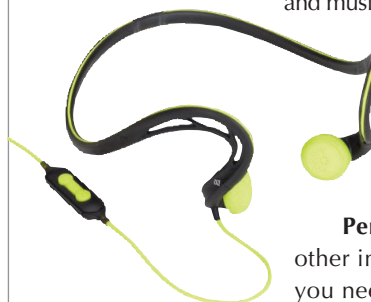
Sennheiser/adidas PMX 680i Sports Headphones



SKU: 1432721
www.sennheiserusa.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: These innovative, behind-the-neck headphones give you control over phone calls and music playback on your iPod, iPhone, or iPad. They're sweatproof, rugged (with Kevlar-reinforced cables), and engineered not to fall out.

Perfect For: Running and other intense workouts when you need to stay in touch.



SPORTS

Philips ActionFit Sports Earbuds**PHILIPS**

SKU: 2150113

www.philips.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: Designed to hold up to your hardest workouts, these buds offer three sizes of soft silicon caps that comfortably sit in your ears and block unwanted noise. What's more, they also create a seal that repels sweat. Ideal for outdoor use, the long 1.2m cable gives you the freedom to put your device where you want.

Perfect For: Runners, bikers, and other athletes who want lightweight earbuds that stay put when they're active.



SPORTS

JVC Riptidz HA-FX8 Headphones**JVC**
The Perfect Experience

SKU: 3316045

av.jvc.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: Choose from small, medium, and large silicone eartips for a custom fit designed to stay in place even during heavy workouts. Functional and stylish, they have a sweatproof design, 11mm drivers for clear sound, and a 3.3-foot cable with a gold-plated connector.

Perfect For: Those who want a colorful pair of buds that can keep up with exercise, work, or play.



NOISE CANCELING

Klipsch Image S4 In-Ear Headphones

SKU: 9422369

www.klipsch.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: Equipped with noise-isolation technology, the Image S4 removes ambient noise to deliver smooth sound and enhanced bass. Durable built-in strain relief and an angled nozzle for proper in-ear alignment let you comfortably enjoy your audio for long periods of time.

Perfect For: Those who value audio clarity and comfort, but don't want the bulk of an over-the-ear pair.



NOISE CANCELING

Rocketfish Atmos Noise-Canceling Headphones

SKU: 2760502

www.bestbuy.com

What Sets These Headphones Apart: Advanced Wolfson my-Zone noise-cancellation technology makes up to 99% of ambient sound simply disappear. Soft earcups make long wear comfortable, while 40mm drivers with neodymium magnets yield a high 100dB/mW sensitivity.

Perfect For: Audio enthusiasts who travel, commute, or work in noisy environments.



Essential Accessories

No matter where you're going, a portable device can add enjoyment to your journey. To ensure you're taking full advantage of the capabilities your portable devices offer, check your local CE retailer for accessories that can enhance your mobile experiences.

PORTABLE DEVICES

Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security 2012



SKU: 3140335

www.trendmicro.com

What Sets This Software Apart: Trend Micro Titanium Maximum Security 2012 extends protection beyond your PC and Mac, covering your Android and iOS mobile devices as well. You can also access its 10GB of SafeSync online storage from your tablet or smartphone.



Perfect For: A family with a variety of computers and mobile devices they want to keep safe.

See
p. 46

Rocketfish Sport Neckband Headphones

SKU: 3019072

www.rocketfishproducts.com

Headphones Are Perfect For: Tuning out the world when you want to enjoy your music or video. In fact, noise-canceling models actively dampen outside sounds.

Headphones also let you set your own volume level without worrying about disturbing anyone else.

See pages 68 to 71 for many more details.



Dynex Portable Speaker

SKU: 2256407

www.dynexproducts.com

A Portable Speaker Is Perfect For: Sharing your MP3 player audio with a small group, anytime, anywhere. A battery-powered speaker typically accepts audio through a standard stereo cable, so you can use it with just about any mobile device with an analog output.



Insignia AM/FM Dual Alarm Clock Radio

SKU: 8647841

www.insigniaproducts.com

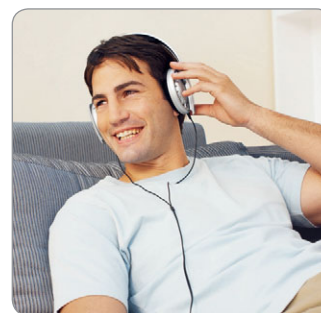
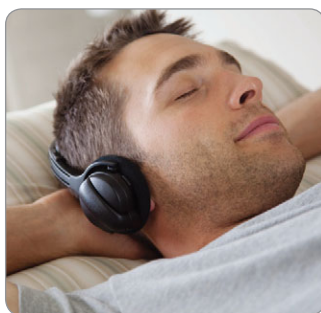
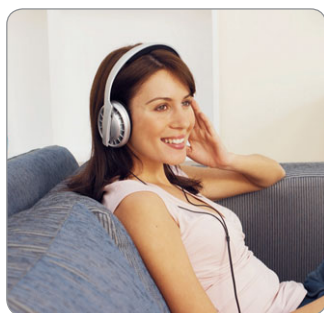
A Clock Radio Dock Is Perfect For: Waking up to your favorite tunes on your MP3 player. Some models recharge your device, come with battery backups, and feature two separate alarms for different times of day.



MP3 Player Glossary

Who doesn't want an MP3 player? It can help you relax, motivate you, and ensure that you always have a song to match your mood. When you head to your local CE retailer to snag one, make sure you have this glossary so you can choose the perfect model.

PORTABLE DEVICES



AAC—Short for Advanced Audio Codec, this format is a competitor of the more common MP3 file format. It is the default format used by Apple.

Bluetooth—A wireless technology, supported by some MP3 players, that connects devices with short-range radio frequencies.

capacity—How much data a player can hold. This is typically expressed in gigabytes or megabytes. Generally speaking, 1GB will hold about 250 songs.

download—In terms of digital music, downloading is when you retrieve a song from an Internet site or another network connection and save it to your computer or portable music player. You can download songs from music Web sites such as iTunes, Amazon, or Rhapsody.

DRM (digital rights management)—DRM is a security mechanism for digital media, associated with copyright. A common DRM scheme for digital music involves getting a licensed file to authorize playback of a free or purchased song.

earbuds—Small, circular devices you put into your ears so you can listen to music on your player. These serve the same func-

tion as headphones. Many music players include their own earbuds, but you can purchase a separate pair that is more comfortable or of better quality.

flash memory—Solid-state memory with no moving parts that is lightweight and small. In terms of digital music players, a flash-based player is lighter and smaller than a hard drive-based player, and also, it won't skip. Thus, flash-based players are popular for use during exercise. However, the capacity of a flash-based player isn't as large as a hard drive-based player.

FM tuner—If your music player has a built-in FM tuner, you will be able to listen to music that is broadcast from local radio stations.

hard drive—Storage that consists of rigid platters inside a fixed casing. In terms of digital music players, a hard drive-based player is larger and heavier than a flash-based player. Because of the moving parts (the platters), hard drive-based players are also prone to skipping. However, their capacities are much larger than those of flash-based players.

music management program—A program, such as iTunes or Windows Media Player, that loads onto your

computer and lets you play, organize, download, and purchase media, such as music and videos, for your player or PC.

MP3—Perhaps the most popular digital audio encoding format. It compresses audio to about one-twelfth the original size while still providing excellent sound. In general, a 1MB MP3 file will last about one minute.

playlist—A queue of songs a user creates to play on a computer, burn to a CD, or transfer to an MP3 player. The playlist will only include directions to the location of the songs, not the actual songs themselves.

podcast—A downloadable episode that is similar to a radio program. A user can subscribe to a podcast for updated episodes, or she can download podcasts one at a time.

screen—The display on the front of a portable music player. A player's screen can either display in color or black and white.

WMA—Windows Media Audio is a digital audio format created by Microsoft.

widescreen—A screen that has a 16:9 aspect ratio.

Clean Dishes The First Time Through Smart Dishwashers

A “smart” dishwasher uses technology and design to get your dishes clean without wasting water, energy, or your time. The following is a quick look at the features various dishwashers use to get the job done.

APPLIANCES



**Samsung DMT800RHS/X Tall Tub
Stainless-Steel Dishwasher**
SKU: 9980455

Smart Sensors

Better dishwashers use sensors to keep tabs on things such as the temperature of their water and the amount of food particles (soil) in it. Some also monitor their water level and detect leakage to avoid spills on your floor. Another smart water management technique is a faster drying cycle that uses circulating air.

Specialty Cycles

To handle different types of loads, many dishwashers offer unique wash cycles.

- A steam cycle can loosen soil or clean fragile glassware without spotting
- A sanitize cycle kills germs
- A rinse-and-hold cycle rinses partial loads to nix food odors before you add more dishes later

Filter & Disposer

Many dishwashers have built-in filters to keep loose soil from being re-deposited on your dishes. The best kind of filter is the type that's self-cleaning, so you don't have to get involved. Some dishwashers also have disposer units, which can grind up bigger chunks of food for easy drainage.

Construction

A dishwasher's design is something else to consider.

- A tall tub (interior) and adjustable racks let you wash large items
- A stainless steel tub reduces noise and retains heat for energy efficiency
- A numerically low dB (noise) rating indicates quieter operation

Cook Up Some Savings

Double Ovens

Double ovens are a great way to cut down on cooking time as well as energy costs compared to traditional ovens. Here we take a look at how this alternative cooking appliance may better fit your needs, whether you regularly cook for large parties or need to reduce expenses.

APPLIANCES



Get Two For One

Exactly as the name suggests, double ovens provide two compartments for cooking. They offer one larger and one smaller capacity oven, or in some cases two ovens of the same size. To suit your kitchen setup, there are a few double oven configurations you can choose from. Some are built-in wall oven models; others can be a part of a freestanding range with a cooktop. Additionally, some double ovens include multi-position rack flexibility to accommodate large cookware.

Shorten Cooking Time

Because they offer two ovens in one, double ovens let you set each separate chamber to a different temperature. For instance, meals for a large family can be simplified because you can simultaneously cook two dishes at different temps. This also allows you to perfectly time when dishes will finish cooking, so one won't be cooling down while another is still in the oven. Plus, one oven's aroma won't affect dishes in the other chamber, so your food will always taste the way it should.

Save On Energy Costs

Traditional ovens only provide one compartment, so you have to use the same amount of energy to cook a small meal as it takes to make a large one. Because double ovens offer smaller and more efficient oven capacities, they can help cut your energy costs. By taking advantage of the smaller capacity compartment of a double oven to make small or less complicated meals, you will use the heating space more efficiently, use less energy, and save money on your energy bill.

Essential Things To Know

Vacuum Cleaners

Depending on your cleaning needs, you'll find a variety of vacuum models built to tackle particular types of grime. They also use different technologies and features to get the job done. Below are the answers to common questions about vacuums.

APPLIANCES



What are the major kinds of household vacuum cleaners?

A traditional vacuum catches dirt in a disposable bag. A bagless model accumulates debris in a chamber called a dust cup.

What do amp ratings such as 12A mean?

These tell you how much current the vacuum's motor requires. It's a general indicator of the vacuum's suction strength, if not its specific cleaning effectiveness.

What is cyclone or cyclonic filtration?

Many bagless models use this technique to spin the airflow in a chamber. This flings dirt toward the outer walls, where it falls into a dust cup.

What's a HEPA filter?

It's a replaceable or permanent (reusable) filter that catches allergens an ordinary vacuum may not, including pet dander, pollen, and mites. HEPA stands for high-efficiency particulate air.

What is a carpet cleaner?

This specialty vac sprays cleaning fluid and/or steam on your carpet, agitates it with a brush, and then vacuums it back up. You'll sometimes need to buy replacement cleaning fluid. They can also be called steam or deep cleaner vacuums.

What is a garage or shop vacuum?

Also known as a wet/dry vacuum, this type of model typically lets you clean up wet messes as well as dry ones. They're better able to handle chunky debris than household models, too.



Get More From Your Console

Gaming Audio

Once upon a time, your TV's built-in speakers were adequate for your console gaming experience. Then again, once upon a time, game audio was nothing but beeps and boops. Today's games become much more immersive with a home theater audio system.

GAMING, MEDIA & MORE

To learn how a surround-sound system can elevate your gaming experience, turn to page **19**.



Turtle Beach Ear Force PX21
SKU: 9408688

3D For Your Ears: Surround Sound

Video games have reached a level of sophistication that practically makes them interactive movies. And like movies, most game titles now come with high-quality surround sound for their sound effects, music, and dialogue. They can take advantage of your 5.1-channel or other speaker configuration to literally surround you with breathtaking excitement and thunderous subwoofer bass. Even recent game consoles with stereo audio offer virtual surround-sound technologies such as Dolby Pro Logic II, which you can enable with an A/V receiver. Surround sound can not only put you right in the middle of your game world, but also let you bring all your friends along for a motion gaming party.

Stealth & Strategy: Headphones

Sometimes, it can seem like the only free time you have to play video games is when other family members are sleeping, your roommate is studying, or the people in the next apartment are trying to put their baby down for the night. A comfortable pair of headphones can put you back in the game.

With headphones, you can crank up game audio as loud as you like without disturbing others. Headphones also can help you hear subtle game cues you may otherwise miss, such as distant chopper blades or the shout of a sentry. And if your headset has a microphone, you can strategize with your teammates during online multiplayer sessions.

This Month's Blu-ray Disc RELEASES

GAMING, MEDIA & MORE

	Release Date	SKU	Rating
March			
All's Faire In Love	3/6	19824658	PG-13
American Pie	3/13	4846189	Not Rated
Benji	3/6	19834319	G
Blade Of Kings	3/6	4755142	Not Rated
Camel Spiders	3/27	4792782	Not Rated
Carnage	3/20	4816143	R
Casablanca 70th Anniversary Edition	3/27	4863662	PG
Columbus Circle	3/6	4792855	PG-13
Come Blow Your Horn	3/27	19885187	Not Rated
Dragonball Z: Level 2.2	3/27	19861985	TV-PG
DragonHeart	3/27	19893037	PG-13
Edgar Allan Poe's Requiem for the Damned	3/6	19861463	Not Rated
Footloose (2011)	3/6	4818336	PG-13
Happy Feet Two	3/13	4726584	PG
Harvey	3/6	19882205	Not Rated
High Road	3/6	19813033	R
Hop	3/23	4792846	PG
Jack & Jill	3/6	4841679	PG
Lady for a Day	3/20	19898315	Not Rated
The Legend of Awesomest Maximus	3/20	19852341	Not Rated
Like Crazy	3/6	4818345	PG-13
Lion King II: Simba's Pride	3/6	4798968	G
Melancholia	3/13	4755328	R
Monty Python & The Holy Grail	3/6	4816189	PG
The Muppets	3/20	4635935	PG
My Week With Marilyn	3/13	4792719	R
Nature: Fortress of the Bears	3/6	19861524	Not Rated
A Night To Remember (Criterion Collection)	3/27	19842501	Not Rated
Roadie	3/20	4755424	R
Scooby Doo: Music Of The Vampire	3/13	4843516	Not Rated
Three Musketeers (2012)	3/13	4863626	PG-13
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy	3/20	4790802	R
To Catch A Thief	3/6	4843304	Not Rated
UFC: Best Of 2011	3/27	4792773	Not Rated
Wallace & Gromit's World Of Invention	3/13	4846407	Not Rated
Who's Minding the Store?	3/27	19885809	Not Rated

The Muppets

Rating: PG | SKU: 4635935

Release Date: 3/20



Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy

Rating: R | SKU: 4790802

Release Date: 3/20



My Week With Marilyn

Rating: R | SKU: 4792719

Release Date: 3/13



Find Material That's Appropriate For Your Kids

ESRB Game RATINGS & DESCRIPTIONS

GAMING, MEDIA & MORE

ESRB (Entertainment Software Rating Board) Ratings

In order for parents to select gaming software appropriate for their children, ESRB (www.esrb.org) ratings are listed on the front and back of most game packages to provide concise and impartial details about a title's content.



Early Childhood.

Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 3 and older. These software titles contain no material that parents would find inappropriate.



Everyone.

Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 6 and older. Games in this category may contain minimal cartoon, fantasy, or mild violence and infrequent use of mild language.



Everyone 10+.

Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 10 and older. Games in this category may contain more cartoon, fantasy, or mild violence and language as well as minimal suggestive themes.



Teen.

Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for children ages 13 and older. Titles in this category may contain violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, minimal blood, simulated gambling, or infrequent use of strong language.



Mature.

Titles with this rating have content that may be suitable for persons ages 17 and older. Games in this category may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content, or strong language.



Adults Only.

Titles with this rating have content that is only suitable for persons 18 years and older. Games in this category may include prolonged scenes of intense violence, graphic sexual content, or nudity.

For additional information, ESRB ratings on the back of game packages include content descriptions and depictions.




GAMING FOR PARENTS

Aside from checking a game's ESRB rating, there are other ways you can ensure the games your youngsters are playing are age-appropriate.

- Carefully look at everything on a title's packaging, including the game graphics.
- Find game reviews, screen shots, or demos to get a better idea of a game's content.
- If available, use the game's parental controls to restrict inappropriate content.
- Learn about games by talking to other parents and older children who are familiar with or have played certain titles.
- Participate in your children's gaming and discuss their games as much as possible.
- Be aware of nonrated ESRB material a game may contain. "Mods" are program downloads that can alter a game's content, and online games often have live player chats as well as other user-generated content.

Get The Most Entertainment From A Game System

Game consoles and portable devices are no longer limited to gameplay. They can also access the Internet, download media, and play your favorite DVDs or CDs. To help you find one that suits you best, here's a comparison of models at your local CE retailer.

		Storage space	Compatible memory cards	Optical drive	Video resolution output	Ports	Online community
	What It Means	How much data the system can hold	Cards that will let you save and offload data, such as game saves or personal media	Aside from game discs, other playable media formats	Highest number of video pixels that is sent to a TV or portable console screen	Hookups for controllers as well as video and audio outputs	Web site membership for downloads, upgrades, and more
Console Devices	 Sony PlayStation 3 160GB SKU: 3061302	160GB	PlayStation and PlayStation 2 cards with optional USB memory card adapter	CD, DVD, BD	1,920 x 1,080	1 A/V, 1 Ethernet, 1 HDMI, 1 optical digital audio, 2 USB	Yes, free PlayStation Network membership
	 Nintendo Wii SKU: 3668575	512MB	SD, Nintendo GameCube Memory Card	Can only play game titles	720 x 480	4 controller, 1 A/V Multi Out, 2 USB	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection
	 Microsoft Xbox 360 250GB Console SKU: 1069212	250GB	USB flash drive	CD, DVD	1,920 x 1,080	1 optical audio out, 1 Ethernet, 1 HDMI, 5 USB, Kinect port	Xbox LIVE
Portable Devices	 Nintendo 3DS SKU: 1824267	N/A	SD	None	Upper: 800 x 240 (3D) Lower: 320 x 240	1 headphone	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection
	 Nintendo DSi SKU: 9249565	256MB	SD	None	Dual 256 x 192	1 headphone, 1 microphone	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection
	 Nintendo DSi XL SKU: 3449779	256MB	SD	None	Dual 256 x 192	1 headphone, 1 microphone	Nintendo Wi-Fi Connection
	 Sony PlayStation Vita SKU: 2095647	N/A	PlayStation Network-compatible card	None	960 x 544	1 headset, 1 PlayStation Vita port, 1 accessory port	Yes, PlayStation Network

GAMING, MEDIA & MORE

	Wi-Fi access; Media streaming	Parental controls	Compatible game formats	Included acces- sories & services	Available accessories	Controllers	Perfect for
	Access the Internet without a cable hookup; send and receive media wirelessly	Helps parents decide what content their kids can or cannot access	Game titles that can be played on the game system	Accessories included with the console	Extras that can help enhance your gameplay	Included controllers; wired/ wireless controller compatibility	Who can benefit from the special features the gaming system offers
	Yes, 802.11b/g; Yes—Netflix and content from your home network	Options available for games, BDs, DVDs, and Internet access	Sony PlayStation 3 titles and select PlayStation titles	DualShock 3 wireless controller, USB cable, PlayStation Network membership, A/V cable	Move Navigation controller, Blu-ray remote, Bluetooth headset, memory card adapter, wireless keypad, cables	Includes 1 DualShock 3 wireless controller; wireless	Someone who wants the value of a full gaming system with a BD player and media streaming
	Yes, 802.11b/g; Yes—Netflix	Options available for games, online features and downloads, and more	Nintendo GameCube and Wii titles	Wii remote and nunchuck, sensor bar, New Super Mario game, console stand, A/V cable, adapter	Wireless Wii remote, wheel, classic (wired) controllers, wireless sensor bar	Includes 1 wireless Wii remote and nunchuck; both (some titles require a wired remote)	Gamers of any age who want a unique wireless gaming experience that requires little gaming knowledge
	Yes, 802.11n; Yes—Netflix and content from your home network	Options available for games, Xbox LIVE, console play time, and a Family Settings pass code	Xbox 360 supports backward compatibility of the original Xbox, Xbox 360, and Xbox LIVE Arcade titles	Wireless controller, headset, A/V cable, free one-month trial to Xbox LIVE Gold	Xbox Kinect, HDMI cable, USB flash drive, Xbox LIVE headset, Play & Charge Kit	Includes 1 wireless controller; wireless	Those who want an Xbox console with a Kinect Sensor to play games only with body movement, built-in wireless capabilities, and more
	Yes; Yes	Options available for games, specific wireless connectivity, 3D functionality, and more	Nintendo 3DS titles and nearly all Nintendo DSi and Nintendo DS titles	Charging cradle, AC adapter, stylus, 2GB SD card, 6 AR cards	Cases, adapters, screen shields	N/A	Users who want a handheld game system that supports 3D games
	Yes; Yes	Options available for Nintendo DSi content	Nintendo DSi and Nintendo DS titles	AC adapter, 2 styli	Audio headset, battery power pack, screen protectors, carrying cases, styli	N/A	Users who want a handheld gaming system that lets them take, personalize, and share photos
	Yes; Yes	Options available for DSi software, DSi Browser, DSi Shop, and more	N/A	Rechargeable battery, AC adapter, stylus, and 4 preinstalled titles	Cases, adapters, headphones, full-sized stylus	N/A	Those who want a handheld gaming system better-suited for social gaming with a large screen
	Yes (Wi-Fi; 3G with a mobile broadband plan); Yes	Automatically triggered based on user's age	PS Vita titles	AC adapter; Party, Near, Welcome Park software	Protective screen film, chargers, earbuds, memory cards, cases	N/A	Those who need a system that can support fast, online multiplayer game sessions

Essential Accessories

The console gaming experience goes beyond the game itself—you need the right peripherals as well. Here's a look at a few must-have items that will enhance your gameplay.

GAMING, MEDIA & MORE

Turtle Beach Ear Force PX21

SKU: 9408688
www.turtlebeach.com

A Gaming Headset Is Perfect For: Console or PC gamers who a) need to chat with their multiplayer teammates during squad play or a raid, and b) want to hear crucial sound cues more clearly for quicker response times and higher scores. Communication is key to many collaborative on-line gaming situations, so a headset with a microphone is a natural fit.



Rocketfish Starter Kit For PSP

SKU: 8988679
www.rocketfishproducts.com

A Starter Kit Is Perfect For: On-the-go gamers who play on portable game consoles. A case will protect your device from accidental bumps, drops, and scratches. Cases with zippered compartments, padding, mesh interior pockets, and carrying handles help keep all of your portable console's media, styli, chargers, and more in one secure spot.



NETGEAR N900 Wireless Dual Band Gigabit Router

SKU: 3219043
www.netgear.com

NETGEAR
Connect with Innovation™

What Sets This Router Apart: The Internet user who plays high-performance games and streams HD video. The NETGEAR N900 offers an extended wireless range which improves your signal even in a large residence. Thanks to the N900's ReadySHARE ports, you can connect a USB printer and hard drive, allowing every family member to print or upload wirelessly.

Perfect For: A gamer who treasures instant, lag-free response during online play.



LevelUp Optix Universal Storage Mount

SKU: 2836748
www.levelupgear.com



A Game Storage Unit Is Perfect For: Spring cleaning of your controllers, game discs, and more. Take control of your gaming peripherals and titles with an organizational unit. Some are free standing, while others are designed to mount on a wall. Either type of storage unit will keep gaming clutter off your coffee table, bookshelf, and floor.



Since 1979, Sandhills Publishing has produced publications covering technology beginning with the introduction of *Processor*. Over the years, the company has developed a complete line of computing publications, encompassing *Smart Computing*, *PC Today*, *Computer Power User*, and *First Glimpse*.

Our plain-English approach has served audiences well for 30 years, ensuring they receive accurate and unbiased technology information to meet their needs.



Lenovo recommends Windows® 7.



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